

Why we all love Gwyneth

IRA defector dies while walking dog

# Murder puts Ulster peace under strain

By Martin Fleicher, Chief Ireland Correspondent

REPUBLICANS were accused last night of murdering a prominent IRA defector who was found with severe head injuries minutes after he had apparently painted over graffiti predicting his death.

The body of Eamon Collins. at 'lf-confessed IRA killer who exposed republican atrocities in the best-selling book Killing Rage, was found on a South Armagh country lane just before dawn.

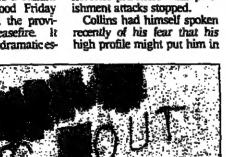
Collins, 44, had gone for a walk with his spaniels shortly before 6am and was found dead at 6.18am. There was immediately intense speculation that he had been murdered by the IRA, and there were even unconfirmed reports that he had been severely beaten and then run over to make it look like an accident.

His death put the peace process under increased strain last nis it: if IRA involvement were proved, it would be a blatant breach of the Good Friday peace accord and the provisionals' own ceasefire. It



Collins: he knew that his life was in danger

calation of violence at a time when the IRA is facing renewed criticism for its "punishment beatings" - the subject of a Commons clash between the Prime Minister and William Hague yesterday, when the Tory leader said that Collins's death highlighted the need to end the early release of terrorist prisoners until pun-



he doctored graffiti near Collins's Newty home. He is

danger. He told the Irish News journalist Martin Anderson that he intended to pull out of the public eye. "He did sound genuinely concerned," Mr An-

Collins blamed the IRA for a hit-and-run attack that left him badly injured in 1997, and last September a house was de-stroyed by arson just before he was due to move in with his wife and four children.

According to residents on the Barcroft Estate in Newry. Collins had only yesterday used black paint to cover up a large message on the gable end of a house reading: "Eamon Collins British Agent 1984 to 1999." A second piece of graffiti on an adjacent gable end had been changed from "Collins RUC Tout (informer)" to "RUC out".

Collins had informed on his former IRA colleagues after his arrest for 50 terrorist crimes, including five murders, but he later retracted his confession. He was cleared by a Belfast court on the ground that the contession was mad missable, but the same statements led to a number of other

IRA men being convicted. He was exiled by the IRA. but returned to South Armagh and repeatedly exposed the organisation's work in print, on television and in court: last year he gave evidence against Slab Murphy, the former IRA chief of staff, in Murphy's unsuccessful libel case against The Sunday Times.

Supergrass, page 13 Leading article, page 23

### Blair defends the release of prisoners despite beatings

pproach to the Northern Ireand peace process was under strain last night after Tony Blair refused to bow to increasing pressure to stop the early ase of terrorist prisoners. iring heated exchanges in the Commons, the Prime Minster repeatedly told William lague that calling a halt to

TV & RADIO .....50,51 WEATHER .....26 CROSSWORDS ....26,52 LETTERS ... OBITUARIES .... ANATOLE KALETSY 22

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ment beatings continued would have "immense consequences" for the process.

of 202 - even though concerns about the beatings were voiced from all sides.

ess and no peace at all. But Mr Hague, rising five times to challenge the Prime Minister, said that paramilitaries must be held to blame for the beatings and insisted there was abundant evidence to justify putting the prisoner

release programme on hold. He told Mr Blair the logical conclusion" of the Government's policy was that "every single terrorist could be released from prison without a single gun or bomb being given up and without an end to these mutilations". He raised the death of Eamon Col-

Mr Blair pointed out that there had been punishment beatings during the ceasefire under the last Government but Labour had never wavered in its support of that

Mr Hague, whom he said was well-intentioned, was being dragged along by others in his party who did not wish the

agreement well. True bipartisanship was not about talking about it, he told Mr Hague. It was about delivering it. "I simply say to Tory MPs, when you were in government we gave you that sup-port through the difficult as well as the easy times."

Downing Street said later that the government assess ment, based on security and other advice, was that the ceasefire was intact. Of themselves, the beatings were not a breach of the ceasefire.

It also pointed out that during part of 1996 when there had also been a ceasefire, the then Conservative Government had decided beatings had not breached it. The Downing Street spokes-

man added: "None of that is to minimise our disgust at what these people do." Mr Hague said that he was raising the matter on behalf of the families of the victims. He

told Mr Blair that acts of intimidation and violence were being carried out on people in this country and asked if Parliament was not the place to raise these matters "then what is the House of Commons

lan Paisley, the Democratic Unionist leader, used parliamentary privilege to name Pro-IRA members he claimed were in a police dossier on the Kingsmill massacre. when ten protestants were shot by an armed gang, killers were walking the streets.



# Muslim cleric's son arrested

FROM DANIEL MCGRORY IN ADEN

cleric suspected of masterminding terrorist operations from his London mosque was seized in Yemen yesterday.

Muhammed Kamil Mustapha and two other Britons were captured at what the Yemenis described as a mountain-top terrorist training camp, shortly before five other Britons went on trial accused of plotting bombings in Aden.

That trial was told that Kamil's father, Abu Hamza who runs the extremist Supporters of Sharia group - had ordered the Christmas Day bombing of British targets in the port city. Kamil, 17, who had been on

the run since the police swooped on the other five on Christmas Eve, is alleged to have been a member of the

ing questioned about the kidof four of them.

After the arrest of the socalled Aden Five — who yesterday complained that they had been tortured while awaiting trial - Kamil and the other two Britons arrested yesterday are alleged to have fled to a camp run by Abu Hassan, the terrorist leader who has admitted abducting the Westerners

on December 28. Police were last night questioning Kamil in the capital, Sana'a, to see if he had any part in a kidnap in which the only ransom demanded was the release of the five Britons described by Abu Hassan as

Abu Hamza later admitted that he spoke to the kidnap gang from his Finsbury Park mosque and the Yemeni audition from Britain. They beplanned and manned from London, and insist that there were links between the tourists' kidnap and the alleged plot to bomb the British Consu-

club. Kamil and the other two Britons - named as Shaz Nabi and Ayub Hussein were arrested after troops surrounded the camp on Ar Batan mountain, 240 miles northeast of Aden. Security sources said that the camp was shelled overnight and that six suspected terrorists gave up without a fight. The three Britons could

reopens on Saturday. Defence lawyers had asked for two weeks to prepare their

now appear in the dock with

the Aden Five when their trial

cuffs to the dock, three of the Britons claimed that they had been sexually assaulted and the other two said that they late, an Anglican church, an inhad been tortured. Moshin Ghailan, 18, who is Abu Harnternational hotel and a night-

days, and relatives of the de-

As they were led in hand-

za's stepson, lifted up his bare feet to show his blackened soles, which he said were bruised from being hanged upside down and beaten. The men's lawyer complained that their human

that they were being denied a fendants yesterday denounced fair trial. Relatives were told but the Yemenis refused to let them be examined by a doctor the families have brought with

> The Foreign Office con-firmed last night that Yemen had told it that three Britons were among the latest wave of arrests, and said that British consular officials had asked for the "earliest possible" access to the men.

> > Torture claim, page 4

#### By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR Government. He alleged that HE longstanding bipartisan the programme while punish-

Differences between the two main parties on the issue continued during a full-scale debate staged by the Opposition. By its end, the government policy of allowing releases to go on was backed by a majority

The clash earlier between Mr Blair and Mr Hague was the most serious since the Good Friday agreement last year. Mr Blair said that while he had legal authority to call a halt to releases, he could do so only if he made the judgment that the ceasefire was no longer holding. He admitted that it was "an imperfect process and and imperfect peace", but said that was better than no proc-

lins as the temperature in the

#### INSIDE **US** support for Jordan

Doctors are treating King Hussein of Jordan for a relapse of non-Hodgkins lymphoma. A statement from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, said he was "in a

stable conditon". The king left Jordan abruptly on Tuesday after naming his 36-year-old son Abdullah as Crown Prince. The United States quickly showed its support. The Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will visit Amman today......Page 19

Senate rules on Lewinsky

Monica Lewinsky and two presidential advisers must testify in person before the Senate, senators insisted, after blocking an attempt to scrap the trial of President Clinton. In a break with its tradition of 'open government", the Senate plans to deploy a small team to question the three

Plough-to-plate saftey levy A levy of £90 a year on nearly

500,000 food retail and catering premises was proposed yesterday to help to pay for a new food safety watchdog. The levy was the most controversial element in a draft Bill which will monitor safety from plough to plate.. Page 11

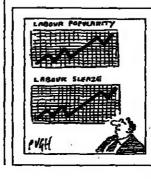
### Labour increases its poll lead

TONY BLAIR and Labour have maintained their commanding lead in the opinion polls over the faltering Tories. brushing aside the Christmas wobbles and infighting following the resignation from the

Cabinet of Peter Mandelson. The latest MORI poil for The Times, undertaken last weekend, shows that Labour's rating has improved over the past month to equal the highest level since autumn 1997, rising two points to 56 per cent. By contrast, the Tories have fallen back three points to 24 per cent, equal to the lowest level for 18 months since just after William Hague became party leader. The Liberal Democrats are two points up at 14

per cent over the month.

The poll will stir up the internal Tory argument about why the party is failing to capitalise on the Government's self-inflicted difficulties.



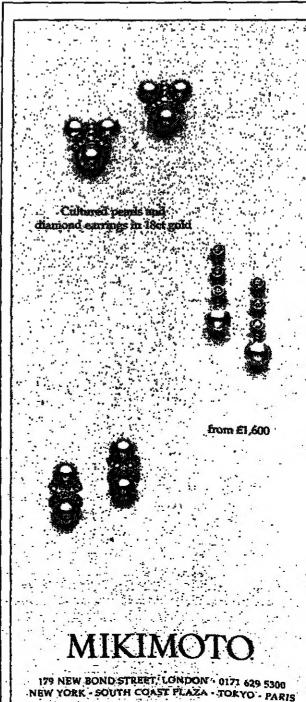
the benefit of the doubt even though the public is highly critical over "sleaze", is worried about the state of the health

service and is pessimistic about the economic outlook. More than half the public (52 per cent) believes the Government has not upheld high standards in public life, while only just over a third (35 per cent) believe it has. This is an almost exact reversal of the position in November 1997 when 55 per cent thought the Government was then upholding high standards in public life, while 28 per cent believed it was not.

At the same time, the number of people regarding the NHS as among the most important issues facing Britain today has jumped from 34 to 49 per cent over the past month. The MORI economic optimism index, measuring the

balance of those who think that the general economic condition of the country will improve rather than get worse over the next 12 months, remains negative. But following further falls in interest rates, the index has improved to minus 23 points this month compared with minus 30 points in

mid-December.
The public still has faith in Mr Blair and the Government and continues to prefer Labour over the Tories by a big margin. Mr Blair continues Continued on page 2, col 1.



# Paisley plays havoc with reporters' volume control

GRAVE though the impact may be outside the Chamber of Ian Paisley's speech yesterday naming suspects, this sketch was distracted by its impact on unfortunate Hansard reporters in the gallery. Tiny loudspeakers are plugged into their ears.

Speaking quietly. Paisley had the reporters turning up their volume knobs. Then, every fiftieth word or so, he suddenly yelled. Reporters kept rocketing from their seats, faces contorted in pain.

By then, Teresa Gorman (C. Billericay), had left. It had not

so important not to confuse Britain's leading trade union with Billericay's favourite cocktail.

The brassy but bright lady from Essex had arrived at Prime Minister's Questions armed with killer quotes from trade union leaders critical of Tony Blair's Government. Mrs Gorman put these to the PM. The second quote was from the Transport and Gen-

Mrs G opted for acronyms. She muddled T&G with G&T. Dennis Skinner noisily con-

Gorman lacks pomposity Amused at her own gaffe, she re-phrased: "one of Britain's major trades unions". In the laughter. Blair had time to marshal a response.

A light moment in a sombre day. William Hague got his hooks into punishment beatings in Northern Ireland and wouldn't let go. Blair was indignant: Hague sounded sincere, forcing him onto the

Cornered, Mr Blair twice defended his refusal to inter-



rupt prisoner-release by declaring that this would signal the end of the Good Friday agreement. It would now.

Hague's claim that soon the Government would have no bargaining chips left did seem to resonate in the Chamber. Blair's charge that Hague was being arm-twisted by those who hated the Good Friday agreement hit home too. Both

charges were lustily cheered by their sponsoring gangs.

Never one for gang-war-fare, Paddy Ashdown tried to change the subject. Having foreshadowed his resignation. a week before, this was his first appearance in the tail-feathers of lame-duck leader. He quacked garnely, betraying both the strengths and the weaknesses which have charperformances.

His question (alleging falseaccounting in Government figures for pensioners' incomes) was thoughtful, unflashy and doggedly anchored in the lives of ordinary people. Ashdown habitually tries to wrench MPs' gaze away from the party-political bear-pit.

But he showed no instinct for the jugular and lacked the nimbleness or stage-presence to press his charges home. This too is habitual. Offstage. Paddy Ashdewn is not wooden: I have often suspected that even after all these years he suffers from stage-fright. Ashdown is at his best

then relaxed. When he cannot be relaxed he is at his hest when rehearsed. His prepared opening quip worked well. To the usual groans as he rose, the outgoing Liberal De-mocrat leader declared "You'll miss me when I'm goner" The humour was well-taken.

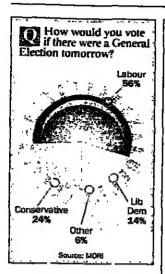
Still, six months remain of what are positively Mr Ashdown's last performances. One of those dreadful Wagnerian three-quarter hours which seem to last an age, labouring with tortured empha-sis towards a much-post-poned climax is in store for us political theatregoers. It is set to last through three elections and until summer rings down

the curtain. No. yesterday was not the end. It was not even the beginning of the end. But it was perhaps, the snuggling down with a choc-ice for the thire interval before the curtain & es

for the final act. Lights dim. I have read and re-read the programme for the Lib Dems' Der Meisterführer but I still don't get the plot.

NEWS IN BRIEF

**Boateng** 



#### Labour up

Continued from page I to enjoy very favourable ratings. By a roughly two-to-one margin the public is satisfied rather than dissatisfied with his performance. Half the publie is dissatisfied with the way that Mr Hague is doing his job as Conservative leader with less than a quarter (23 per

One paradoxical twist is that Paddy Ashdown's announcement a week ago that he intends to stand down as leader of the Liberal Democrats this summer has boosted his own ratings. The net balance satisfied rather than dissatisfied with the way he is doing his job is now plus 39 points, up 12 on last month.

MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1930 adults at 163 sampling points on January 22 to 25. Data were weighted to match the profile of the population. Vot-ing intention figures exclude those who would not vote ill. per cent", are undecided to per cent) or who refused to say (i per cent).

# Dobson admits NHS morale has slumped

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

FRANK DOBSON admitted yesterday that NHS morale is generally low, with a shortage of at least 9,000 nurses, problems in recruiting inner-city GPs and a danger of care

standards falling. The Health Secretary was giving evidence on staffing levels to the Commons Health Select Committee. He said: "The major issue is the recruitment of nurses. I know that we face a serious nursing shortage and we have had that shortage

now. In some places we also have a shortage of physiothera-pists and midwives as well. "Most of what we want to do

to improve the NHS is dependent on getting more nurses," he said. Shortages were especially serious in London, Manchester and Liverpool.

He agreed that pay levels were at least in part to blame but said he was "pretty hopeful" that there would be a generous rise for nurses when the independent pay review body reports, probably next week.

### Treasury sticks to pay rise limits

BY ROLAND WATSON AND JILL SHERMAN

THE Treasury made clear last night that the Government would not make extra cash available to fund public-sector pay awards, as Frank Dobson gave his strongest signal that iunior nurses would get an 11 per cent pay rise next year.

Their pay increases, together with rises of 4.7 per cent for other nurses, will be published on Monday alongside settlements for other public-sector workers. It emerged yesterday that Mr Dobson has ordered an inquiry into the leak of the figure, which until now health ministers and officials have re-

fused to confirm. The Tories are to press the Government to fund the pay awards for nurses and teachers in full. finding the extra cash from central reserves. But Alan Milburn, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said the Government was determined to stick to departmental The settlement, he said, would be affordable and he expected to be paid in full.

He was now hoping to streamline the pay system for the future because the present settlement was based on what he believed were too many different grades of nurses, each with its own pay scale.

He wanted to work towards having three instead of six grades in the NHS. These could be called registered, ad-vanced or specialist nurse prac-

"Under that system, nurses would be rewarded for the work they do and the responsibilities they carry rather than by the grade they are in." he said. Flexible working hours were also crucial if more were to be recruited or some of the 140,000 qualified nurses not working in the profession were to be lured back to the health service. Mr Dobson admitted that

another problem stopping recruitment was racism inside the NHS. "The treatment of black nursing and midwifery staff is a disgrace," he said. Black people whose parents had worked as nurses in the NHS were put off following the same career because they knew how badly they had been treated.



Steve Norman, left, and drummer John Keeble arriving at the High Court yesterday

# Spandau Ballet argue over share of the gold

SPANDAU BALLET, the band that pioneered the New Romantic pop of the early 1980s, was locked in a bitter High Court battle yesterday over song royalties. The creative force behind

the band was Gary Kemp, but three other members claim that he reneged on an agree-ment to split publishing profits with them.

Tony Hadley. 37, the singer, John Keeble. 38, the drummer, and Steve Norman, 38, the lead guitarist, claim they are owed hundreds of thousands of pounds from royalty cheques paid into an account

run by 39-year-old Mr Kemp. leaner times since the hugely successful group disbanded at the end of the decade and Gary Kemp, along with his brother, Martin, the fifth member of the band, went on to pursue film careers including their portrayals of Reggie and Ronnie Kray.

Gary Kemp, who wrote such hits as True and Gold, argues that there was never any verbal agreement and he gave up some of his songwriting



royalties only to help to meet the cost of running the group. He is so upset by the legal action that, before the case opened yesterday, he issued a statement through his solicihistory of the band I was proud off. These songs were written by me as long as 20 years ago and only in the last 18 months has this claim been

Andrew Sutcliffe, for the three plaintiffs, described how, from the humble beginnings of a school band in

Tony Hadley, left, and Gary Kemp, who wrote the songs

North London, Spandau Ballet went on to sell millions of records after establishing "something of a cult following among smart people with inng haircuts". Their earnings were split equally between the band. members and their manager, Steve Dagger. The plaintiffs

say that they were told by both Kemp and Mr Dagger that the songwriter would receive half the royalties and that all members of the band would receive the other half. The

hearing continues.

#### slates social services The Home Office Minister ices chiefs were running awa)

Paul Boateng yesterday said that old-fashioned social servfrom the dangers of dal abuse and allowing packet philes to flourish.

An unnamed social services director dismissed the Covernment's plans for a register of sex offenders as mad and said that it opened "a can of worms". according to a report by the Inspectorate of Constabulary.

Mr Boateng said: What ap-pals me is the failure at the highest levels of management. They would rather turn a blind eye. They have been com-plicit in failing children."

#### Office politics

The Cabinet Office, the department at the heart of government, is severely criticised if the public spending watchdog for failing to provide detailed final accounts of three agencies which were privatised more than two years ago. -

#### Air safety memo

Guy Stephenson, a consultant who wrote a Civil Aviation Authority memo suggesting a "trade off" between salety and productivity, was suspended. The paper was written for the team working on the planned sale of air traffic control.

#### Police blamed &

Police restraints contributed to the death of Nathan Delahunty. 29, from Battersea. South London, a jury at Wested. He was taken to hospital in a police van after becoming unstable from a cocaine dosc.

#### Bishop in private

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cardiff, the Most Reverend John Ward, 70, has cancelled all his public duties after his arrest over allegations that he sexually assaulted a. young girl nearly 40 years. ago. He denies the allegation

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In less than a minute the earthquake in Colombia destroyed almost 60% of the city of Armenia, killing thousands, with

countless more trapped in collapsed buildings This catastrophe has left over 100,000 homeless, many from the poorest neighbourhoods, leaving them with no shelter, food or water and Colombia has appealed urgently for relief funds.

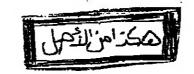
Y Care International is part of the YMCA who have been active with the homeless in this country since 1973. We are there now using the suffering, not just in the cities, but in the many nearby villages and we will be there for years to come.

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# Diamond's husband is fined £1,200 and banned

band of Arme Diamond was fined and banned from driving yesterday after a court was told of a violent row wifa a former girlfriend at a Halloween party that led to a night in

After the hearing, Mike Hollingsworth, who was left with a black eye from the row with Harriet Scott, a radio disc jockey, said it also spelt the en of his marriage to the telepresenter. Miss Diamond is seeking a divorce.

Having been fined £1,200 and banned for a year after admitting failing to provide a breath test. Hollingsworth said: "I'm glad that the court finally got to hear what the truth of the matter was.

What happened was very sad and has cost me quite dearly. It dealt what was probably the final blow to my marriage. and lost me somebody that I considered to be a very good friend who I was very food of.

Reading magistrates were told that Hollingsworth, 52, lived with Miss Diamond and their four children in Oxford u. We they separated last year. On the night of Halloween he and Miss Scott, 26, had been treme. He decided to take her the car park. He had been tak-

Hollingsworth says row with girlfriend ended

his marriage, reports Claudia Joseph

invited to a party, hosted by cal state. One solution is you one of her friends, and the cou-ple had checked into the Holiday Inn in Caversham

The evening had turned into a disaster when Miss Scott had accused Hollingsworth of flirting with other women and a violent row had ensued in which Miss Scott had tried to grab him round the throat and he had slapped her face. Sasha Wass, for the defence.

said: "During the course of the evening, things began to turn sour. The young lady in quesnon became very angry and she accused Mr Hollingsworth of paying attention to other women.

"Her reactions were ex-





هكذا من رالامل



The court was told that Mr Hollingsworth had not seen Harriet Scott, left, since the row that he said spelt the end of his marriage to Miss Diamond, right

where officers smelt alcohol on his breath and noted "his speech was slurred, his eyes were glazed and he was unsteady on his feet. However, Hollingsworth did not want to listen and "was waving his arms in the air and mumbling that he hadn't driven and therefore would not provide a specimen of breath"

Police had finally decided that his behaviour amounted to a refusal to provide a breath

specimen and had locked him in the cells for the night.
Miss Wass claimed the po-

lice had misread the situation and blamed Hollingsworth's behaviour on concern for Miss Scott and frustration with the police. She said: "In a mutshell this is an offence that need never have been committed. There was a domestic argument. Mr Hollingsworth admits his guilt and doesn't wish. to shy away from this. He was caught up in a series of events in which he was really the victim rather than the culprit." She said that Hollingsworth had not seen Miss Scott since he was arrested and claimed that she had capitalised on the

She told the court "Mr Hollingsworth was genuinely fond of Miss Scott and in return she was keen on the publicity which went with the relationship.

publicity the case had at-

There have been numerous

articles in which she's been interviewed and she has described herself on radio, I understand, as Rocky, which you know is a prize fighter. She

Last night Miss Scott denied she had provoked Hollingsworth into hitting her. She also said: "The implication that I have achieved 15 minutes of fame appears to be that I have somehow gained from this experience. I believe this is

has achieved her 15 minutes of

discussing this matter in public and have indeed turned down numerous financial offers from newspapers and

magazines to tell my side of

the story." Howard Davies, chairman of the bench, offered Hollingsworth the chance to reduce the ban by three months by taking a £230 course for offenders but

# Paramedics thought killer was play-acting after death of friend

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A KEEN amateur actor gave every sign of suffering from deep shock bludgeoned and stabbed her lover's wife to death. Chester Crown Court

broke into the house, shut her away

medics were convinced that Cupit, from Orford, near Warrington, was play-acting when, moments later, she appeared to collapse and faint as she was led out of the house

ny Cupit, 24, a mother of two. \_\_\_ One paramedic later expressed shut. I said to get back on her feet ged backwards and forwards in surprise that her vital signs, includ- and she got up and walked to the hysteria as she haltingly told police soon after she saw Kathryn Lin-officers of an armed antruder who a alter 34, a primary school deputy head, bleed to death at her home in

and then killed her friend in the Penketh, near Warrington. Kennext room with a knife. But paraneth Fellowes, an ambulance officer, said: The young girl dropped to the floor. It was as if she was acting - it was done to prevent herself from hurting herself as she fell.

can try and slap them around the face to shock them into be

ing calm. That is what Mr Hollingsworth did. It had the

Miss Wass told the court the

desired effect for some time."

couple were planning to re-

turn to their hotel when Miss

Scott became agitated again,

to take her to hospital. In the

end he had driven her to Read-

ing police station where he

had been arrested after refus-

Ravi Sidhu, for the prosecu-

tion, told the court that Holl-

ingsworth arrived at the police

station at 2.25am on Novem-

ber I to seek advice and had an-

other row with Miss Scott in

ing to take a breath test.

"The girl's eyes were closed, she was deliberately bolding them Earlier the jury was told that Mrs Linaker mes her hasband

Chris, a trainee computer consult-

rington Centenary Operatic and They became a regular "four-

some" through their mutual interest, but the prosecution alleges that Cupit had been conducting an affair with the dead woman's husband for more than a year.

Linaker to leave his wife and run away with her to Canada. She was

ant, and later Cupit and her hus-band, Nick, through the War-home and happy family, the court was told.

Cupit, a hairdresser, is alleged to have murdered Mrs Linaker in a fit of jealous rage last April, stabbing and bludgeoning her with a kitchen knife, a carving knife and a heavy glass bottle. She denies murder, but has pleaded guilty to manished responsibility. The plea is be-

ing contested by the Crown. Cupit wept quietly as a recording examined Cupit in hospital, said he

of the 999 call made by her motherin-law was played. The jury heard the operator make repeated attempts to find out from Cupit whether the victim was still breathing. Finally Cupit tells the operator: "She is my best friend ... she's my best friend." Police arrived to find Cupit

apparently hysterical, screaming and "rocking back and forth". Her right hand had been cut and her jeans were heavily bloodstained. John Hood, a police surgeon who

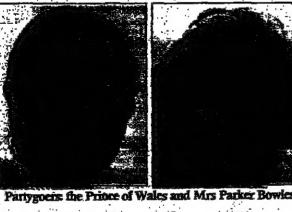
taken Prozac for it. He found blood on the left of her forchead, left cheek, right ear, the front of her neck and her forearm. slipping down the shaft of a knife

ing any symptoms of mental illness. He said in a statement that

Cupit told him that she had devel-

oped bulimia in 1995 soon after the

birth of her youngest child and had



## Together at last for the cameras?

PHOTOGRAPHERS were already crowding the persentations outside the Ritz in Central Lonclon last night on the strength of Lunour that the Prince of Wales and Camilla Parker Bowles may this evening allow themselves to be seen in public gether for the first time.

The couple are expected as puests at a dimner-dance to cel-brate the 50th birthday of ebrate the S0th birthday of Miss Parker Bowless's younger sister. Annabel Elliont Until now they have gone to great lengths to avoid being pictured together, although their relationship has long been common knowledge.

Egriser this evening the Prince is to host a charity dinner at St James's Palace, but is expected to look in later at the

pecied to look in later at the iz party. Mrs Parker Bowles said to be planning to spend the entire evening at the party.
A source said last night: "It's a family party and they are both

invited. These things cannot be scripted, but it would be natural for them to leave together."

Cameramen have spent more than ten years waiting in vain for a chance to capture the Prince and his long standing companion in the same frame. Sources also said last right that too much advance publicity might deter the cou-ple from a joint appearance. Since the death of Diana. Princess of Wales, in August 1997, the couple have ap-peared reticent about testing public opinion, but the Prince is believed to feel that the relationship must be brought fully

into the open sooner or later.
They have been to clubs and restaurants together but have always kept the lowest of profiles. Yet Mrs. Parker Bowles stays regularly overnight at St. James's Palace, and has now met Prince William and Prince Harry on several occasions.

## Chat with dad turns boys into better men

FATHERS who devote time to ing them a far greater chance to grow up as confident adults, a parenting research project

Boys who feel that their fathers devote time especially to them and talk about their worries, schoolwork and social lives almost all emerge as motivated and optimistic young men full of confidence and hope, according to results to be published next month.

The sindy, the latest from the Tomorrow's Men project appropriated by Oxford I invested

supported by Oxford University and funded by Top Man, picked out youngsters with high self esteem, happiness and confidence as successful can do kids, and looked in depth at their parental and so-cial backgrounds. More than 1,500 boys aged 13 to 19 were

surveyed. "High-level fathering", it found, was much the most important factor in success. More than 90 per cent of boys who felt that their fathers spent quality time with them and took an active interest in their progress emerged in the

"can do" category.

By comrast, 72 per cent of thers rarely or never did these things fell into the group with the lowest levels of self-esteem and confidence, and were more likely to be depressed, to dislike school and to get into

trouble with the police.

The raw amount of time spent with sons was not significant - what was important was Katz, of the Tomorrow's Men project, said: "With some children, a five-minute chat at the end of a busy day can be terrif-ic, and with others that's not enough. It is all about making the child feel wanted, loved

The study found little difference between the positive effects of a good relationship with a father in a standard two-parent family, and with an absent father who nevertheless made the effort to make time for family. "Whatever the shape or form of a family, if you can get it together it makes a difference."

Among the "can-do" group, three-quarters said that they felt their parents listened to them, compared with 27 per cent in the low-estern group: 83 per cent said that their parents were helpful; and 70 per cent said they were allowed to make their own decisions.

Families who spent significant amounts of time together as a unit were also more likely to turn out confident children.

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# Student cashes in on magic card

A STUDENT trying to close his bank account yesterday instead found the perfect solution to clearing his overdraft a cash eard that let him empty three cash machines of £35,350.

Donal Knox, a 22-year-old student of Spanish at Leeds University, ran out of ockets and had to stuff the money into a carrier beg with his overther library looks as the notes kept pouring out. His sungin card started its work as he tried to mathebraw £300 from a Barciays

thing was amiss. "It just wouldn't stop throwing money at me," he said. "The first few times I pressed the £100

button but quickly realised it was bottomless and started on the £200 option. It ran out of £10 notes and then ran out of twenties, so I went to the Midland bank around the corner." Two cash machines in the bank there also suc-

combed to his card.

Three hours and three coupty cashpoints later Mr Knox re-entered his Barclays branch and opened an Instant Saver account with £35,350 in each. The reason for the uncharacteristic

generosity of the cashpoint machines is

ma, while spending a year there as part of his course. The card was given to him

Finally, worried that a team of Cen-tral American debt-collectors might soon be on their way to Leeds, Mr Knox decided to telephone the head office in Panama to alert them to the error.

They seemed completely nonplussed and said they would ring me back," he said. Tribanco said they were unable to comment until they had completed

# 'We will never get out of here alive'

### Britons claim torture and abuse at Yemen terrorism trial

FROM DANIEL MCGRORY IN ADEN

DISPLAYING bruises and claiming weeks of torture, five Britons sat through the chaotic start to their terrorist trial yesterday fearful of a certain death sentence.

As Shahid Butt, 33, a finance student from Birming-

As Snanio Butt, 33, a finance student from Birmingham, was dragged in hand-cuffs from the dock by troops, he shouted to his brother: "They are going to beat us and kill us for denying their ridiculous charges, so help us". Two others in the dock tried to fight off soldiers long enough to describe alleged sexual abuse by their interrogators.

One young officer put his hand across the mouth of Mohsin Ghalain, 18, an engineering student from London, and pulled him from the dock by his torn shirt as he cried out: "We will never get out this country alive, no matter what we say or do". Mr Ghalain had already lifted up his bare feet to show soles black with bruising. He says that he was hung upside down and his feet beaten repearedly with canes.

beaten repeatedly with canes.
Sitting 4ft away from the wooden dock that was by now submerged under the bodies of a dozen soldiers. Monica Davis was forced aside with a rifle butt as she tried to reach out to her husband, Ghulam Hussein. 25, a security guard from Luten. He shouted to her but tripped and fell headlong as he was bundled away with his arms behind his back.

"You don't have to treat him like an animal." she screamed, dissolving into tears. "Look how scared and ill he looks." Malik Nassar Harhra, 26.

Malik Nassar Harhra. 26. san information technology of graduate from Birmingham. twas slapped as he tried to wave to his father and Sarmad Ahmed, 21. a computing student from Birmingham, was lifted off his feet and hauled a away as he pointed to dark Ahmiese all alone his arms.

bruises all along his arms.
Their first court appearance

after a month in custody had lasted barely 50 minutes. For most of it, the men sat bewildered, unable to follow the acrimonious legal arguments going on in Arabic. When an elderly translator was provided after 25 minutes, he struggled to keep pace and startled the Britons by telling them that the prosecutor wanted them executed. They had been told that the worst they could ex-

pect was ten years in prison. The five turned anxiously to one another as Mr Hussein's sister. Zafran Begun, cried out in disbelief. Even the men's own lawyers seemed unsure what punishment they might face as the judge threatened to expel the defence team if they complained any more about his handling of events in Aden's Appeal Court. One of their lawyers. Badr Basunaid, said later: "If this sort of farcical behaviour continues, I will walk out because there is no chance of a fair trial."

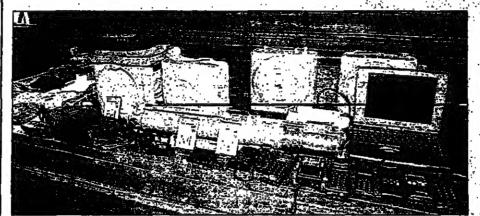
Before the five had arrived, television cameras were allowed to film weaponry and explosives that the Britons were allegedly given to blow up targets in Aden on Christmas Day. Soldiers elbowed each other aside to pile an armoury on a desk in front of the judge's dais. There were landmines. bazookas, a grenade, fuse wire, detonators and a sackful of 15 blocks of TNT wrapped in red and left sweating in the stifling heat.

At the front of this display, a senior officer carefully propped up three audio cassettes plastered with the logo of the Supporters of Sharia, the extremist group run from a London mosque by the handicapped cleric Abu Hamza. The prosecution's opening sentence was: "This offence started in London in the offices of Ansar Sharia (SOS) which is owned, by Abu Hamza and who exports terrorism to other



Malik Harhra, left, Mohsin Ghailan, Sarwad Ahmed, the Algerian Abdraham James and Shahid Butt display their bruises on the first day of their public trial

# Cruel practice that is ancient and universal



Landmines, bazookas and TNT were among the equipment put on show at court

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE eruel practice of beating the soles of a victim's feet, known in the West as bastinada and in Arabic as falaga, is ancient and universal among repressive regimes. Shakespeare, drawing on Holinshed's chronicles of medieval England, knew it. Touchstone the clown, listing some of the 150 ways he might kill in As You Like It, says to Andrey: "I will deal in poison with thee, or in bastinado, or in steel." At Annesty International, bastinado is regarded as a method of torture rather than a form of judicial punishment. Although it is widespread in the Arab world, traditionally administered by cane or knotted rope, there is no justification for it in Islamic law.

Torture is a criminal offence in Yemen but it

has also been a widespread practice in detention centres, police stations and prisons throughout the country. It has frequently been reported as the main or contributory factor in cases of deaths in custody."

Amnesty quotes the Yemeni constitution, which states that anyone ordering or practising torture shall be punished. The country of penal code stipulates a maximum of ten years jail for torturers. But the human rights group lists a catalogue of barbarity in the country since it was unified in 1990, icluding electric shocks, urinating on victims, burning

with eigareties, and sleep deprivation.

Yemeni authorities are also accused of subjecting prisoners to Kentucky Farraj, where prisoners are trussed like a chicken and suspended from a metal bar inserted between hands and knees, which are tied together.

ourt appearance who exports rerrorism to other All the men were still in the understand and

ons, Moshin Ghailan is the cleric's stepson and Mr Ahmed is alleged to be the information officer for SOS. Also in the dock is an Algerian. Abdraham James, who is believed to be engaged to a close relative of the cleric.

All the men were still in the

they were wearing when arrested on Christmas Eve. When the judge. Gamal Ahmed Omar, asked them all a series of quickfire questions about their backgrounds, only Mr Harhra, who has joint Anglo-Yemeni citizenship, could understand and answered in Arabic. The judge struggled to comprehend Mr Ghailan's repeated mention of Shepherds Bush, which the teenage student gave as his West London address.

As he took his place in the

dock. Mr Ghailan told The Times how he had not been allowed to sleep for the first week of his arrest. Il lay on a concrete floor, no mattress and if I dozed off they would kick me and question me some more. Then they sexually abused me. I had sticks, a Coca-Cola bottle and fingers shoved up my arse. They also gave me electric shocks to make me sign a confession. They even make us go to the lavatory in handcuffs. It's monstrous."

He tugged at his dyed red hair as he told how, on the eve of the trial, he had been taken on a 500-mile round journey to the capital. Sanaa, and forced to identify other alleged terrorists: "I didn't recognise them but they say they are part of my gang. They are mad but they are going to damage us if we don't get out soon."

we don't get out soon".

Mr Ahmed was the most animated in the dock. Like the others, he denied charges of "planning to form an armed gang to carry out murder, saborage and bombing". As he made his denial, he shouted to the judge: "When the prison guards find out we have refused these charges, they are going to kill us."

Mr Butt, a father of four, finished giving his answers by turning to his brother. Rashid, and saying: "This is a kangaroo court." The last to answer was Mr Hussein, who had to repeat his job, "security officer", several times before the judge understood. Turning to his wife, he shook his head and muttered: "This is a setup". The judge warned that they would all be evicted if they kept up their werbal ti-

The prosecution says that the Britons arrived separately in Yemen and found their way to a mountain training camp run by Abu Hassan, the self-confessed leader of the Islamic Army of Aden who kidnapped 16 western tourists to force the release of these five Britons. The court was told how Hassan gave the Britons explosives and weapons, which they tried to smuggle in their hire car past a military checkpoint on the outskirts of Aden.

They allegedly abandoned the vehicle after crashing into a lorry and were picked up at two city centre hotels hours before they were due to bomb the British Consulate, the Anglican church and a-nightelub that features belly dancers. With tempers fraying an

both sides, the judge adjourned the case until Soturday to allow the defence team more time with the five. He also said that the men could see their families but he refused to let them be examined by a doctor the relatives had brought from Britain.

☐ In London, the cleric Abu
Hamza denied having anything to do with the latest
three Britons arrested — including his teenage son — or
with the kidnap of 16 westerners last month and the five Britons now on trial. He said: "I
didn't know anything about
the first group, why should I

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# Guilty trainer fights to keep beaten monkey

MARY CHIPPERFIELD left court yesterday with her repu-tation as an animal trainer in tatters after she was found guilty of hitting a baby chim-panzee with a riding cup and kicking it. Her husband, Rog-er Cayley, was found guilty of cruelty to a sick elembant. cruelty to a sick elephant.

It was the first time a member of the Chipperfield circus family had been convicted of cruelty, despite many allegations by animal rights campaigners over the years. As she left the court in Ando-

ver. Hampshire, flanked by police officers. Chipperfield smiled defiantly as supporters of the Animal Defenders chariwhich had instigated the

secution, shouted abuse. Cawley, 64, a government zoo inspector, was convicted for applying a whip and stick to the elephant's body, which was covered in open sores. Both were acquitted of charges who conducted the prosecu-relating to the neglect of other tion, immediately asked the sti-animals, including camels pendiary magistrate to pass



Trudi the chimpanzee at Monkey World in Dorset

the convictions, it was displanned to take the beaten chimpanzee. Trudi, back to her training quarters in Hampshire. Charles Gabb.

ownership to the police to pre-vent the animal being re-moved from its new home at Monkey World in Dorset.

He expressed concern that Chipperfield, who was found guilty of 12 charges of cruelty, had said on oath that she would do the same again. Anne Rafferty, QC, for Chip

perfield, who was charged un-der her married name, Mary Cawley, said her client could not be disqualified from having Trudi back as she did not own the animal: it was owned tions Ltd. of which Chipper-field was a director. Because the company had not been con-victed, it could not be stopped in law from reclaiming the chimpanzee and returning it to Chipperfield's care at the

Roger House, the supendi-ary magistrate, adjourned sentence on the Cawleys until April 9, at Aldershot, to ascertain whether he could stop her taking Trudi back. In finding the couple guilty

Chipperfield leaving court yesterday to shouts of abuse from members of the charity Animal Defenders

of 13 charges out of 28, Mr House said that the Cawleys were not guilty of gratuitous cruelty. "It was not cruelty for the sake of it. It was a means to an end." However, any reason-able person would judge that they still cruelly inflicted un-

has been criticised for years. the London-based Animal De-But it was not until activists fenders, said after the case that she was pleased the couple had been convicted but disapfrom Animal Defenders infiltrated Mary Chipperfield's training quarters near Stockpointed that Trudi might have to go back. "It is the first prosebridge, and produced hours of video evidence, that a success-

The circus dynasty, which

ful prosecution was brought. Chipperfield and her husband

and semi-retirement, in 1993. There she concentrated on dealing, training only when asked specifically for help. Introduced to the ring by her famous father, Jimmy, when she was ten, she claimed she was being victimised by the campaigners and the media be-

#### Recruits 'forced to dance the conga naked'

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

TEENAGE soldiers were made to dance the conga naked as part of a barrack-room initiation, a court martial was told

yesterday.
Three recruits were ordered from their beds in the middle of the night and forced to strip a few weeks into their basic training with the Royal Green Jackets. One of the alleged victims said: "I was scared and disgusted. We were jumping around and kicking our legs in the air."

The court was fold that the initiation ceremony was directed by Riflemen Jason Puzey, 27, and Mark Dacey, 22, at the infantry regiments training camp on Salisbury Plain. First they were woken and their heads were shaved. Hours later they were roused again and ordered into an adjoining barrack room where they were made to strip and dance the conga in front of laughing soldiers from their unit.

One recruit was so disturbed by the experience that he fled from the barracks and was too scared to return for an hour. He said that he had feared for his safety when his head was shaved. "I have been

trying to forget it." he said. Rifleman Puzey and Rifleman Dacey, who serve with the regiment's 1st Battalion based at Bulford, Wiltshire, are accused of ten charges of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military disci-

The pair face one joint charge of conduct of an indecent kind for rubbing a stick across the chest and inner The court martial continues.

# Globe director says sorry for stealing role of Cleopatra

MARK RYLANCE, who is to play Cleopatra this summer in one of three new Shakespeare productions at the Globe with all-male casts. apologised yesterday for depriving actresses of their roles.

The theatre's artistic director

pointed out that female roles were

rates with scholars to recreate as accurately as possible the way they were originally staged. He added that playing Cleopatra would present him with "a challenge".

Rylance, 39, is still working on just how to play the part but his performance will depend on speech. by Fiona Shaw's Richard II, he is also exploring whether to redress the balance with an all-woman cast for other plays.

As well as Antony and Cleopatra, the other all-male Shakespeare productions in the new season - May

taken by men and boys in Shake-gracefulness, "and the ability of the speare's time; the Globe collabo-audience to imagine". Impressed ing the "vexed question" of whether ing the "vexed question" of whether it would have been staged in Roman or Elizabethan costume, and The Comedy of Errors.

They are still casting. Rylance has yet to find his Antony. "I hope to find a consenting adult over the Rylance said that drama was a rectors in the modern form have too much responsibility". The Globe will be sharing out those tasks, appointing a Master of Plays and a Master of Verse to take charge of "developing our eloquence".

Discussing the success of previous seasons — with 98 per cent ca-pacity for The Merchant of Venice

and 76 per cent for As You Like It— he spoke of how the audiences "teach you so much about a role... rejecting what doesn't work".

While he spoke Henry V's lines

last summer, a voice from the audience bellowed out: "Get on with it!" "They were right," Rylance observed yesterday, "though I didn't

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# Saturday in the times Irvine surrenders to 'no win, no fee' divorce critics

the legal system. He has surprised

his critics by acceding to a series of

demands for his powers to be

curbed and for stronger safe-guards to be written into the Bill

THE Lord Chancellor has agreed disputes involving money and to withdraw his plans for "no win, property could be funded through no fee" arrangements for divorcing couples who are fighting over

property or money.

Lord Irvine of Lairg has bowed to the concerns of the Law Society and family lawyers, which said that such arrangements would undermine government policy to pro-mote amicable divorce settlements. The concession is the latest of several by the Lord Chancellor during the passage of his flagship Access to Justice Bill through the

House of Lords. Michael Mathews, president of the Law Society, said: "Conditional fee Ino win, no feel arrangements are totally unsuitable for divorce cases. The Lord Chancellor has sensibly reversed a government policy that would have led to increased acrimony and unnecessary legal battles in divorce cases."

He said that the Lord Chancel-

for the running of the proposed Community Legal Service and "no win, no fee" arrangements.

Despite the change of heart, which was also urged by the Solicitors' Family Law Association, Lord Criminal Defence Service which are to replace the £1.6 billion legal

The concessions are likely to en-sure a swift passage of the Bill Irvine is standing firm on the pro-posed withdrawal of legal aid for all personal injury claims. This would leave conditional fees as the through Parliament. As well as scrapping legal aid and setting up the two new servic-es, the Bill lays the basis for public-

only source of funding for most people with accident claims, the Law-Society said, Mr Mathews said he hoped that the Lord Chancellor would listen es, the bill lays the basis for publicly funded legal services to be provided through a system of contracts.

Couples seeking a divorce will
be able to find specialist legal help
more easily under a scheme
launched today by the Law Society. as carefully to concerns about conditional fees in personal injury cases as he had the issue of condition-It is to publish a list of 4,000 solicial fees and divorce. tors who have a track record in Lord Irvine has acted swiftly to defuse opposition to his Bill, which paves the way for an overhaul of

family law and are committed to encouraging couples to resolve matrimonial disputes peacefully. In 1997, 164,000 people filed for divorce. Most had had no previous contact with a solicitor and were unaware that they usually special-ise in particular areas of law.



Ted Hills: ordered to change at airport

### Holiday boy was dressed to distress

A BOY aged 10 was arrested by Barbados airport officials after arriving for a holiday wearing can-

ouflage clothing.
Ted Hills's outfit, bought from
Marks & Spencer, broke a Battadian law that makes it illegal for all but the island's armed forces to

wear camouflage kit.
His mother, Pat, said: "We got to customs and an airport police officer took us off to a room and told Ted to strip off. I told them he was not a terrorist and that he was only 10, but they said it was an offence to wear camouflage clothes on the island. Ted is soldier mad so I'm just glad that he didn't have his toy gun with him."

The family, from Heavily, Manchester, were allowed to continue their holiday after the boy had changed. They let us keep the camouflage stuff as long as we promised not to take them out of the suitcase for the rest of the holiday," his mother said.

A spokesman for the Barbados tourist authority said: "It is against the law for anyone to wear carrie-flage clothes unless they are in the Barbados Defence Force. Tour operators should know that and in-form holidaymakers beforehand."

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# School music gets £180m change of tune

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

the announcement yesterday of a £180 million mittative to train teachers and provide more instrumental tuition.

Free music lessons have dis-appeared from thousands of schools as local authorines and school governors diverted funding to other areas. Re-search suggests that £10 mil-lion a year has been lost, with the proportion of subsidised

lessons dropping from 70 per cent to 40 per cent since 1993. David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Serretion to ring tericibility govern-ment money affocated hor school music. A joint initiative with the Culture Department into school budgets over the next three years and add £30 million already committed to

the new Youth Music Trust The trust, which has Sir Simon Ratile and Sir Elton John among its trustees, will make instruments available to children and help to fund after-school activities. Its funding will come from the National Lottery Local authorities that

A DECADE of decline in have preserved their music school music is set to end in services will bid for a total of many parts of England with E30 million a year on top of their current music budgets. Others will have to find matching funding to gain access to £20 million a year to re-establish subsidised tuition.

lagra vou

fraone-n

sical instruments or the tuition

they desperately need to develop their talents."

Head teachers and music bodies welcomed the initiative but gave warning of potential problems with its implementation. tion. Some authorities the tral music services complained that they would now be penalised.

Michael Wearne, who will put another £150 million - chairs the Federation of Music Services, said there was also a danger that hard-pressed local authorities would use the new môney to replace, rather than increase, current spending. "It's a bit like filling the bath from one end and leaving the plughole open at the other. We will have to exert moral pressure to ensure that the money gets through because this is a wonderful opportunity."

### Adopt a Cub for Valentine's Day

and help WSPA save bears from cruelty. Guler was found wandering the streets of Istanbul. Hunters probably shot her mother so Guler could be taught to 'dance' for tourists. With her brother Erol she's now safe at WSPA's



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# Women retract claims of MP's election fraud

TWO WOMEN who told po-fice that Mohammed Sarwar had orged them to falsify their

had urged them to falsify their electoral registration forms withdrew their allegations yesterday as they faced the Labour MP in court.

On the second day of Mr Sarwar's trial at the High Court in Edinburgh, Shadia Hussain, 33, and Shamin Ahmad, 30 agreed that they had given statements to the police identifying the man who called at their homes as the MP for Glassow Govan.

MP for Glasgow Govan.
But yesterday they said they were less sure. Mrs Hussain, who described the man as a bald, smartly dressed, middle-aged Asian, told Duncan Menmay bave jumped to con-clusions. Mrs Ahmad said she was depressed and confused at the time, having had a miscarriage. Both women asked for their current addresses not to be divulged whenthey gave evidence.

Mr Sarwar, 46. Britain's first Muslim MP, denies four charges of electoral fraud and conspiracy io pervert the course of justice. He is accused of inducing Mrs Hussain and Mrs: Ahmad to make faise statements by adding their names to the voting register in

And the state of t

· ---- -%:  $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2\pi^2}$ 

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5.00

Witnesses now not sure that

man on doorstep was Mohammed

Sarwar, reports Gillian Harris

also accused of attempting to pervert the course of justice by inducing a rival candidate, Badar Islam, to make a false statement about two other candidates for a £5,000 payment.

Mrs Hussain told the court that she filled in the registration form on her doorstep while a man held it on a clipboard. When the man asked how long she had been living at her address she said she moved there in November 1996.:

The gentleman said: Have you stayed in the area? I stated that I lived across the road since August. He said: You were living in the area? I said, yes. 'If you stayed in the area just put down August 1996. 1 ... just put in August 1996." Mrs Hussam said.

The court was told that Mrs. Hussain had told the police in was Mr Sarwar. Her state-ment said that she claimed that as he was leaving Mr Sar-war had told her to make sure I voted for him".

Yesterday she told the court "At that time I thought myself it was true." Mrs Hussain agreed that an article in The Scotsman reported her as saying the caller was Mr Sarwar. But she added that she had no chance to raise her subsequent doubts with police as they did not contact her for months.

Mrs Ahmad told the court that two men sporting Labour rosettes called at her home early in 1997 to check on voter registration. She filled in a form for herself and one for her husband, entering the date they moved into the house as November 11, 1996.

Studying the same form yesterday Mrs Ahmad agreed that the number 11 had been changed by a different hand to a 4 to make it look as though the couple had moved in April. Her statement to police said:

"I completed these forms in Councillor Sarwar's presence. I would recognise Mr Sarwar again." Yesterday she said she was no longer sure. "All I can say is I was quite badly distressed after the miscarriage."



عكذر من رالامل

At home on the range: Chris Brocklesby, 17, from Llanelli, who was declared world-line dancing champion in Texas

# Valleys cowboy dances to victory

A TEENAGER from South Wales has stomped his way to victory in the world line-dancing championships, defeating America's leading Country and Western

dancers on their home ground.

Accompanied by his mother, Lynda,
Chris Brocklesby, 17, travelled from Lanelli — where he is studying the performing arts at college - to Texas to compete against hundreds of championship-winning line-dancers. The locals may have been born with Country rhythms in their blood but it was Chris's routines that impressed the judges and helped him to outhoof them all.

The teenager, who had won heats in Scotland. Germany and The Nether-

ing enthusiast, encouraged him to enter lands, said yesterday: "I still can't believe it. When the judges said I'd won I was so excited I started running around the dance floor. I'd worked hard for it but it was a real surprise. "Most of the Americans had never heard of Wales so they were pretty shocked when this lad from the valleys

Chris took up line-dancing after a visit to a Country and Western chub with his parents seven years ago. Soon he was joining weekly classes and entering junior contests. He practised for hours in front of a mirror in his bedroom and built a tiny wooden practice stage next to his bed. His father, Ray, also a line-danc-

Dixons

came over and won the contest."

the world championships, organised by the United Country and Western Dance Council, in which 210 dancers from around the world participated, including one from Saudi Arabia. The Welsh cow boy wore a stetson, tassled cowboy shirt, jeans and black boots for the contest. After his victory, Chris taught a class at the

Silver Saddle Club in Chicago. He said: "Some old schoolfriends have a bit of fun at my expense but I tell them they should give line-dancing a try. When they do, most of them enjoy it. Line-dancing has taken me around the world and some of my best friends are line-dancers who think it's a pretty cool thing to do."

#### Detection rates fall despite extra cost

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICING costs have risen to £115 a year for every man, woman and child in England and Wales, but the number of crimes solved by each officer is

falling.
In its latest survey of police performance, the Audit Com-mission says chief constables should explain why there are wide variations between forces. The gap between the best and worst in clearing up crime is continuing to grow, even though some forces performing badly are increasing their spending. The commission says: The police service is spending more per head each year but there is still no direct correlation between increased spending and improved performance at the level of individ-

The commission also asks why chief constables cannot agree national standards for answering 999 calls and responding to them.

It found that since 1994-95 the number of crimes solved by each officer had dropped from 9.3 to 9.2 in 1997-98. At the same time, recorded crime per 1,000 population has fallen by 15 per cent, the number of officers on duty has not changed and the cost per head has gone up by £7.

Paul Vevers, who prepared the study, named a group of poor performers as Northumbria, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Durham and West Mercia.

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# Viagra youths risk all for a one-night stand

YOUNG men who take the anti-impotence pill Viagra when they do not need it risk losing the virility they are try-ing to enhance, a leading consultant has claimed.

The drug has been licensed by five months and is meant who suffer from erectile dysfunction, a condition which affects one in ten, most of them middle-aged or elderly.

However, Viagra has been available on the internet for months and illicit suppliers have been offering it for sale in clubs and discos, where it is nicknamed Sextacy. Young men have been buying it in the hope that it will improve their

sexual performance. According to Roger Kirby, a consultant urologist at St George's Hospital, south London, young men taking the aug are putting themselves at SEX DRINK HALTED

The British launch of a new drink for lovers under the name Viagrene was blocked by the High Court yesterday after objections from Pfizer. manufacturer of Viagra. Via-grene, already on sale in Finland and Sweden, is promotan aphrodisiac. Mr Justice. Parker temporarily banned Eurofood-Link from marketing it in Britain pending a full

serious risk of becoming impotent. If they take it with a "recreational" drug they also run the risk of a heart attack or

Mr Kirby says the danger is that, among some normal young men, Viagra causes priapism. a persistent and painful erection that can last for up to 12 hours. This in turn cuts

tates the erection process. Once the muscle is damaged in this way it becomes impossi-ble for the young man to have a normal crection again.

cause a sudden fall in blood a heart attack or stroke.

used recreational drugs, contains amyl nitrate. which reacts in this way with sildenafil and becomes ex-

Mr Kirby says that taking Viagra for recreational purposes must be discouraged. There is no evidence that the drug does improve the performance of young men who do not suffer erectile dvsfunction while the hazards to them of taking it are great.

# off the blood supply to the smooth muscle which facili-

The other, life-threatening danger is that sildenafil - the active ingredient of Viagra combines with some drugs to pressure and thus precipitates

"Poppers", one of the most tremely dangerous.
Writing in Student BMJ.

# BY IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

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#### **Scientists** are losing war on superbugs' BY ANJANA AHUJA

SCIENTISTS are losing the war against superbugs, an Oxford scientist said last night. New forms of highly evolved bacteria that have begun to appear in British hospitals can dely every known antibiotic. Martin Westwell delivered

the stark warning in the first of a new series of Royal Institution lectures, sponsored by The Times. The Scientists for the New Century learne series has been established to promote the work of young scientists such as Dr Westwell, a 27-year-old Cambridge trained chemist, who are at the frontline of research but rarely have the opportunity to ex-plain their work to the public. Dr. Westwell explained that current strains of bacteria had evolved chemical tricks to outwit even the most powerful drugs. Vancomycin, often called the "antibiotic of last resort, was now powerless against some of the nastiest

As a result, he said, hospitals were having to contain. rather than combat, infections. It is possible that the infections could creep into small-er hospitals and nursing homes with less vigilant controis, and from there find their way into the general community. Such a scenario, Dr Westwell said, would be a public bealth disaster and might cripple the NHS.

if any new drug does prove effective, scientists will still have to keep searching. Bacteria typically evolve resistance to any drug within about four years of its introduction.







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# Police investigate more 'backdoor euthanasia'

FRESH allegations of "backdoor euthanasia" in Britain's hospitals are being investigated by police and health

Inquiries have been launched into at least six deaths since The Times disclosed earlier this month that some doctors caring for elderly patients were "giving nature a helping hand". They were said to be withholding intrave-nous drips from dehydrated patients, often under sedation. an allowing them to die.

tions, bereaved relatives maintain that the patients were not terminally ill; four involve hos-

The BMA tells Michael Horsnell that some hospital doctors may be acting outside the law

The latest claims take the number of known cases referred to detectives, health authorities and hospitals to nearly 60. Most involve individual cases but an investigation in Derby is looking into the deaths of 40 patients with dementia on a psychogeriatric ward at the Kingsway Hospi-

pitals already named by The Prosecution Service in the sum-rangements. At their most vulmer after an inquiry that was begun in November 1997, when junior nurses complained that food and water were being withdrawn from senile patients.

A number of relatives say that hospitals have made it clear that if they want to pur-sue a complaint, the exroner must be informed, which netal. Three nurses have been cessitates a distressing post suspended. The police file is expected to be sent to the Crown body and a delay in funeral ar-

der to establish firm guide-lines. Michael Wilks, chairman of the BMA's ethics committee, said that the response suggested that patients with dementia and those who had nerable moment, they feel preshad serious strokes were sured into agreeing to death among patients not terminally ill who had had arrificial hycertificates that commonly deem death to be due to the undration withdrawn. derlying pathology, such as The House of Lords has stat-

ed that cases of persistent vegecancer or stroke, rather than tative state (pvs), such as that of Tony Bland, the Hillsbor-ough stadium disaster victim. As relatives' complaints about backdoor "mercy kill-ing" increase, the British Medimust be referred to the courts. cal Association is carrying out But in other non-pvs cases, doca huge consultation exercise on withholding and withdraw-ing fluids from patients in ortors are operating in a grey eth-ical area in which they are al-lowed to exercise their clinical judgment and act in what they believe to be the patient's best Grieving families seek answers

interests.

Dr Wilks said: There may be cases where best interest judgments and full clinical assessments have not been ade-

He advised doctors that decisions about withdrawing nutrition and hydration from pa-tients who were not dying should be taken "only with great care and with legal ad-

Two of the fresh cases examined by The Times were at St Peter's Hospital in Chertsey. Surrey, where one disturbing case is already under consideration by the Crown Prosecution Service after an inquiry by detectives.

That case involves an 81-year-old woman, admitted for treatment for constipation and a urinary infection, whose condition deteriorated from dehydration until her death six

days later in May 1997. Dr Wilks said: "It appears to us that the law is so unclear that doctors would be well advised to have recourse to the courts before they withdraw hydration. I am speaking of patients with, say, advanced Alzheimer's or those who have had serious strokes. We feel doctors withholding mutrition or hydration are outside the law even though their intentions were no doubt made in the best interest of the patient as they saw it."



Lindsay Griffiths with her husband Karl MacInnes. She is suing the Army for defamation

### Army sued for Aids scare

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A WOMAN is to sue the Army after she was named as an Aids threat to 7,000 sol-

diers on a military base.
Lindsay Griffiths, 20, claims that she was harassed and victimised after senior army officers issued a public warning to troops at Catterick garrison, in North Yorkshire, that two local women were carrying the virus. Personnel were urged to seek medical advice and undergo HIV tests.

Although the Army never named the women, gossip on the base pointed the finger at Ms Griffiths and a friend who lived in the village of Colburn.

close to Catterick. Neighbours claimed they had held drunk-en sex parties at the friend's council flat with squaddies queueing to get in.
The two women, who were

both aged 19 at the time, stren-

uously denied the allegations and rumours. When army officials refused to confirm or deny if Ms Griffiths was one of the women whom soldiers were being warned about, she took an HIV test. The result

was negative.
Yesterday John McArdle, her solicitor, said that Cherie Booth would be heading the legal team and that Ms Booth

was a very able Queen's Counsel. "She is synonymous with protecting individual right and we are pleased to have her on our side representing Lindsay when we sue for damages for defamation." Mr McArdle said a writ-

had been served on the MoD-

this week. The MoD had not

yet indicated whether it would

contest the claim. Yesterday the MoD refused to comment. Ms Griffiths subsequently married Karl MacInnes, 23, a soldier with the 1st Battalion The Highlanders, based at Catterick, who had stood by her during the controversy.

One of the fresh cases at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, Surrey, involves the deaths of James Rowe, 81, a retired engineer, and his wife Doreen, 83, who died there two years apart. Their daughters, both nurses, are complaining about their treatment. Mrs Rowe, a mother of five, was put on a nasal-gastric tube but kept pulling it out and it was not replaced. During her first week in hospital her daughters had good contact with staff but, a week before she died, both sisters found staff suddenly distant. The two sisters pleaded in vain with them to replace the drip and, three days later, Mrs Rowe died. Her husband died from pneumonia two years later, on December 19, 1994. James Rowe was admitted to St Peter's after a neighbour found him distressed at home. A drip was found to have missed the vein and was not replaced. Three days later he had a fatal heart attack. Pat Tayler, one of his daughters, said: "We asked why he couldn't have a drip but nobody could give us an answer. He died thirsty. The whole thing was a nightmare." Both cases have been reported to police. A spokesman for the hospital said the incidents would be investigated.

Lilian Cook, 88, suffered a fall at home on May 13 1998, and was visited by a doctor. Her daughter, Valerie Buckle, arrived to care for her and during the day Mrs Cook had an omelette and six cups

When, however. Mrs Buckle realised that her mother's left arm was floppy, she again called the doctor and Mrs Cook was admitted to Eastbourne District General Hospital. She was found to have suffered a mild stroke that affected movement of the arm. The next day Mrs Buckle dis-

covered a sign saying "nil by mouth" above her mother's bed. About 36 hours after admission Mrs Cook, who remained conscious during her illness, was telling her daughter. "I'm gasping for something to drink, my mouth is so dry." Nursing staff said she was not allowed anything until she saw a doctor because a stroke may affect the ability to swallow.

Increasingly concerned by the lack of fluids, Mrs Buckle bought a feeding cup from a pharmacy and her mother drank a weak solution of orange juice unaided. When Mrs Buckle returned the next day, the cup had been re-moved and she was told not to



disobey the nil by mouth re-gime. Still no doctor had seen her mother, she says.

Three days after admission Mrs Cook was given an intravenous drip but it caused swelling in her arm. The drip was removed and never re-placed. Still complaining of thirst. Mrs Cook died three days later on May 19. The family could not bear

the thought of a post-mortem examination, and the cause of

death was given as a stroke.

Mrs Buckle, 65, says: "Maybe my mother would have died anyway but the hospital could have made her last few days a little more comfortabie." She has asked the police to investigate. No comment was available from the bospital.



Home fantasies are shifting further from the towns, says Rachel Kelly

THE dream of the moneyed country lover is shifting back to the green acres and privacy of the real countryside. But once there, they have no wish to farm nor to become the local

This is because their dream lifestyle is now to work from home in a four-bedroom. three-reception house set in a couple of acres in the West Country, costing up to £500,000, with accommodation for live-in staff, And an

Aga cooker, of course.

The glimpse into the fanta-sies at the higher end of the house market is provided by a survey by Country Life magazine, whose house adverts are the stuff of envy among many

Their 1970s ideal was an Edwardian house in Surrey. In the 1980s, it was a small Palladian mansion in Wiltshire. A decade on, the dream has poshed into Somerset, Devon and East Anglia. One reason is that the country property market is now driven by people buying homes for their families, not their retirement. as the telecommunications revolution mean that careers such as marketing and PR can be **Dursued** from home.

Buvers want the proper countyside as opposed to leafy suburbia, privacy as opposed to being high-profile "squire of the manor" and staff accommodation as homes become more remote from cities.

The survey tracked 750 houses advertised in 1998 and compared them with an equivalent sample advertised in 1980 and 1990. The number of such high-profile advertisements is taken to demonstrate an awareness of what people really want. Country Life's deputy editor Michael Hall said: This survey draws its authority from the fact that the adverrisements reflect the way ideals and aspirations have evolved since the 1970s, from the dawn of the country house boom through the burgeoning **DEB ON THE WEB** 



Is this the face to launch a thousand years? Davina Duckworth-Chad, 19, kicks off a competition to find a millennium girl with beauty and brains on Country Life's new website - www.countrylife.co.uk

confidence of the property market in the Thatcher decade, to an arguably more discreet and sophisticated market today."

The desire for real countryside was reflected in the gradual decline in the number of houses advertised from the commuter belts of Surrey. Berkshire and Kent. By 1990 this figure had declined to 21 per cent and by 1998, it had gone down to 15.5 per cent. The Cotswolds was the dream location in the 1980s: advertising in Gloucestershire more than doubled between 1980 and 1990, in part because of the Prince of Wales's home in Highgrove and the Princess

Royal's home at Gatcombe. A decade on, the push continues west and east. Just 5 per cent of advertisements came from East Anglia in 1980, compared with 7 per cent in 1990

number of cottages declined. and so has the number of farms (3 per cent compared with 36 per cent in 1990) because of the unprofitability of farming. Land is no longer a great draw, with 4.5 per cent of houses having more than ten acres in 1998, compared with 28 per cent in 1990. In contrast with the 1980s, people wish for tate. Land is for privacy, not display. "Houses are now homes and not status sym-

bols," Mr Hall said, The survey also noted a sharp rise in the number of post-war houses being advertised, suggesting that people who cannot find or are unable to afford a historic house are looking more sypathetically at greater accuracy in the use of historical styles such as Jacobean Queen Anne or Regency.

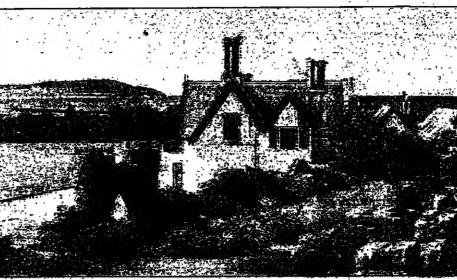
There is a decline in the number of homes for sale which are advertised as unmodernised. "Buyers no longer want the bother of doing up these houses," said Mr Hall. There has been a steep fall in the number of chapels, barns and windmills, a reflection of tighter planning restrictions which has made it difficult to do up such homes, and a move away from the 1980s passion for doing up wrecks.

Kitchens have become a key point now featured as prominently as reception rooms. In particular, owners are keen to mention it if they have an Aga four per cent of advertisements featured one. Riding remains the most popular activity drawing people to the countryside, but there is an increasing desire for more sedentary comforts: houses are more like ly to have saunas than billiard

William Gething, from the buyers agent Property Vision, said: "Privacy is at a premium. People are prepared to travel further to work and many are now working from home."



Dream home of the Nineties: a Georgian mansion in the West Country



Dream home of the Eighties: a Palladian mansion, ideally in Wiltshire



Dream home of the Seventies: an Edwardian house, preferably in Surrey

#### NEWS IN BRIEF 3,000 to leave jails

with tags

Three thousand offenders would be released early from prison by Easter under the Government's new electronic tagging scheme, prison officials forecast yesterday. Even tually an estimated 30,000 to 35,000 prisoners, sentenced for crimes ranging from thefit to some violent crimes, could be freed every year. Martin Narey, director-general designate of the service, denied that the scheme was intended to re-duce prison populations and said tagging would help pris-oners to make an effective transition back to life in the

#### Butler accused

Bernard Flannery, 40, butler to the Prince of Wales at St James's Palace, has been charged with drink-driving following a collision at Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, moments after collecting a new £15,000 Ford Focus for the royal staff fleet.

#### Rector's appeal

Clifford Williams, 50, who was defrocked by the Church in Wales in 1997 for "scandalous conduct" by having a six-year affair with a married parishioner, lost his appeal to the Church's Synod of Bishops against his expulson as Rector of Bentlech, Anglesey.

#### Sinking funds

An 81-year-old artist sold his storyboards for the 1957 film A Night to Remember, about the Titanic, at three times their ex-pected price. Robert Bell, from the Midlands, drew the pen and ink pictures for Pinewood Studios. They fetched £1,495 at a sale in London.

#### Football arson

The former head of then Division Three football club Doncaster Rovers was facing jail after he was found guilty of a plot to burn down the club's main stand. Ken Richardson was exposed when the former soldier he had recruited left a mobile phone at the scene.

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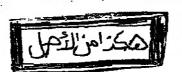
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THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

THE TIMES THURSDAY JANUARY 28 1999

**HOME NEWS** 

# Plough-to-plate food scrutiny will cost £120m

A FLAT-RATE levy of £90 a year on nearly 500,000 food retail and catering premises was

proposed by the Government yesterday to help to pay for a new food safety watchdog.

The levy was the most controversial element in a draft Bill for the establishment of a Hood Standards Agency, which will monitor the safety of what Britain est from of what Britain eat from plough to plate. Retailers and farmers wel-

comed the principle of the agency but said that its independence would be under-mined from the outset if it depended on food industry fund-Jing Butchers, corner shops and other small businesses said it was unfair that they should be charged the same rate as supermarket chains

Nick Brown, the Agricul-ture Minister, said that the kevy proposals would be put out to consultation for two months and might be amend-ed in the light of these discussions. The food industry is being asked to fund the extra costs of setting up the agency. but most of the cost of protecting food safety will continue to be met from public funds," be

Mr Brown described the

Farmers and shops fear levy will compromise

agency's role, reports Michael

Hornsby of one prepared sandwich. Lo-cal authorities would be given the task of collecting the levy and would be able to use some

of the money to finance food safety enforcement through local environmental health offic-There are 515,000 registered restaurants, hotels, shops, caerers and other optlets selling food to the public. But 25,000 of these will be exempt from the levy. It will raise an estimated £40 million a year for the agency's start-up costs and part of its £120 million annual

levy will be reviewed after Mr Brown said that the agency would not involve extra public expenditure because levy as modest, working out at the £250 million already being

budget, with the rest coming

from general taxation. The

through such bodies as the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Health. He hoped the Bill could become law by this autumn and the agency working by early next

The new body will have the power to advise ministers, recommend policy changes and draft some legislation. It will be free to make public its advice to ministers.

The agency will be headed by a chairman and about 12 independent members. It will be jaccountable to Frank Dob-son, the Health Secretary, and will have 500 staff transferred from Agriculture and Health.

The agency will share with the Health Department the task of advising the public on diet and nutrition and will be consulted on the health aspects of genetically modified crops.One of its main functions will be to monitor the work of local authorities. Graham Bidston of the Na-

tional Pederation of Meat and Food Traders, representing 3,000 independent butchers, said: "We support the agency in principle, but anything that is funded by the industry will not be credible in the eyes of



A sandwich shop in Wandsworth, southwest London. Small food businesses say they will have to recoup the government levy by increasing prices

# Corner shops protest at 'poll tax'

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

EASIER administration appears to be the reason why the Government has chosen a flat-rate levy of £90 a year on food premises to pay for its new Food Standards Agency. Critics say the meth-od is unfair, like the poll tax which the

Tories tried to keyy on property. Harrods or a Tesco superstore will pay the same as a village store, pub, corner shop or mobile hot dog vendor. Only very snall food retailers, such as newsagents, will be exempt. Asked yesterday how this could be reasonable, Nick Brown, the Ag-riculture Minister, replied: "Because the level of risk would be the same."

Ministry officials said that it was often George Bridges, page 22 in the small businesses where hygiene problems arose, rather than in super-

chillers. As the levy is less than £2 per premises per week, it should be bearable for most businesses and should not lead

to higher prices, the ministry said. In a consultation paper, the Government said a flat-rate levy was the "most efficient and cost-effective" method of rais-ing money to fund the agency. Grading it according to turnover, floorspace or number of staff "would add considerably to the complexity of the scheme and the administrative burden on businesses and

Typical of the owners of smaller food premises who object is Constantinou Mebetios, 62, who owns a cafe in Wandsworth, southwest London: "It's all right for the supermarkets, they make millions

stores with sophisticated storage and business. I will have to put up my prices and that will upset my customers.

The Government is proposing to ex-empt an estimated 25,000 shops, such as newsagents, which do not primarily sell food and deal only in wrapped confectionery, soft drinks and crisps. This will leave an estimated 490,000 premises to be charged, with the aim of raising £40 million in each of the first three years towards setting up and running the agency. It will have a budget of about £120 mil-

Church and village halls used by voluntary or charitable organisations will be exempt, provided that no food except tea, sugar or similar dry products are stored there. Events such as Women's Institute lunches and village fetes will be spared, but schools and hospitals must pay.

#### Relentless rise over 20 years

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

FOOD poisoning has shown a relentless rise over the past 20 years, with about 100,000 cases now reported each year, of which up to 200 are fatal.

The causes are complex, but most experts believe that lifestyle changes have played a big part as more

and more people eat out or rely on ready-made foods. Official figures mainly cover food poisoning re-ported by doctors and con-firmed by laboratory analysis. It is thought that as many as a million people may suffer each year from unreported food-borne infection leading to diar-

rhoea or upset stomachs. Reported cases of food poisoning in England and Wales rose from 14,253 in 1982 to an estimated 93,990 last year. In Scotland they rose from 2,700 to 9,241, and in Northern Ireland from about 100 to 1,300.

# Americans come clean on how to avoid tummy trouble

THERE is less food poisoning in the ing organisms. Fingernails should United States than Britain, even in urban areas. Therein lies the clue to At home, the refrigerator and

the spread in this country.
Americans are extremely hygieneconstitute and would not dream of 
lading to wash their hands carefully beaks of food poisoning in Britain can be traced to the simple failure of a senier or cook to screen their hands

cooking utensils are a common source of infection. Americans set a good example again. Their fridges are usually splendidly aseptic, with unopened tins and bottles gleaming beside well-wrapped food. In Brit-ain, a raw bloody joint too often drips from a shelf anto food below.

economy-conscious, non-throwaway society but hygiene is not one of them. If food is to be kept, it should not be allowed to stand in a warm kitchen, breeding bacteria, for hours before it is refrigerated. Meat should be cooked through.

That may not prevent Creutzfeldt Jakob disease but it will offer protection from E. coli and a host of other less lethal organisms. Eating steak

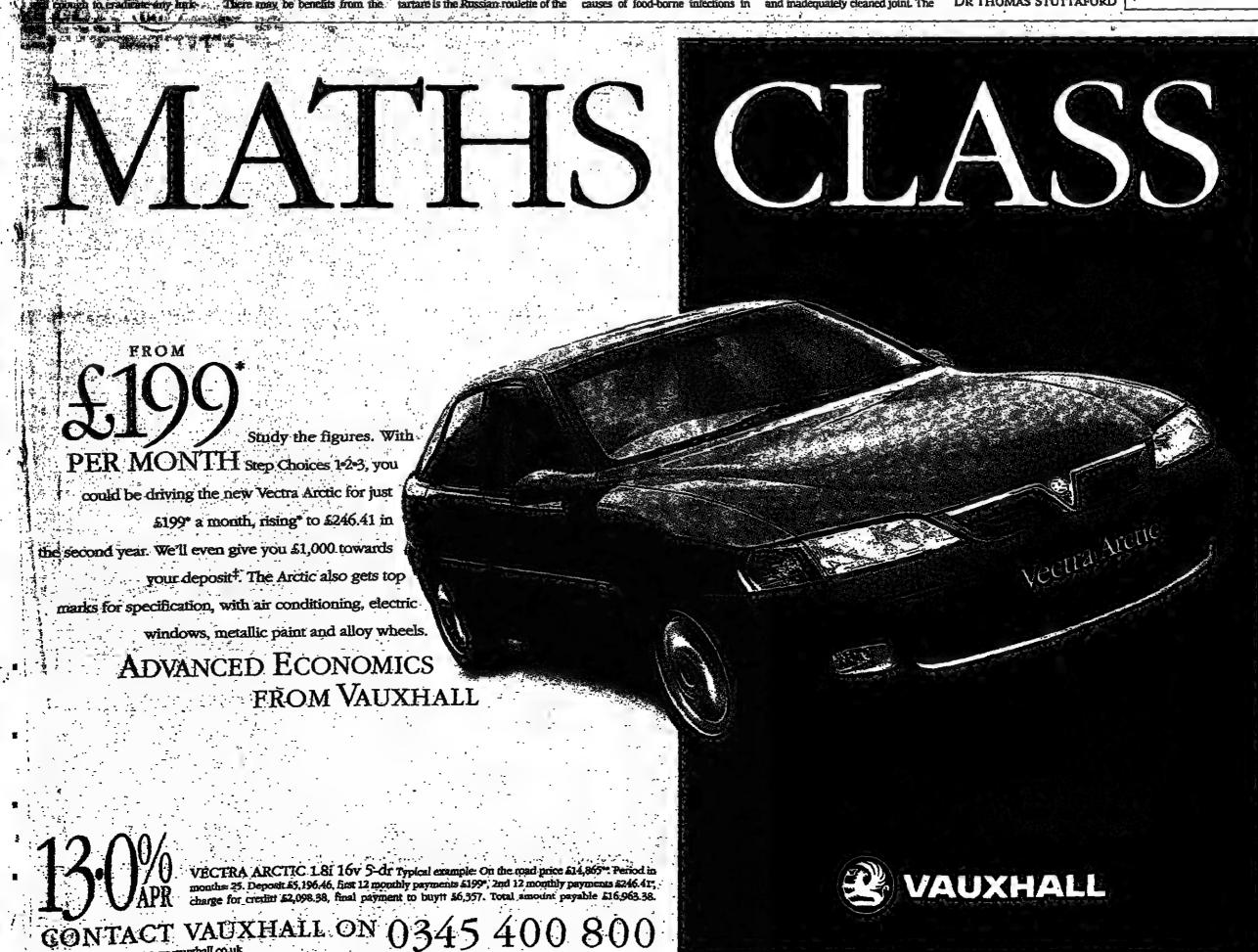
dining room. The incidence of food poisoning continues to increase. Some cases are non-infectious and the result of a sensitivity to a food but that is comparatively rare. Attacks of diarrhoea and vomiting are more likely to follow a visit to a restaurant, or a public function, than eating at home.

Food poisoning may be caused by bacteria or viruses. The common this country are salmonella, staphylococcus, campylobacter and clos-tridium perfringens. There are also outbreaks of listeria and E. coli 0157, which is particularly dangerous in the very old and young.

The truth is that most food poisoning is a result of eating faeces, either human or animal. It may come from the dirty hands of the cook or waiter, or from a hadly butchered

vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, headache, shivering and, if there has been too much fluid loss, collapse. Tests will usually confirm Most cases will clear up spontane-

ously but, if there is bleeding or a persistent temperature, antibiotic therapy will be helpful.



# Tory MPs demand end to releases



Blair: stood firm in face of pressure

By James Landale AND PHILIP WEBSTER

TORY MPs yesterday demanded a halt to the further release of paramilitary prisoners until terrorist beatings, mutilations. and shootings ended in North-

Opening an opposition day debate, Andrew Mackay, the Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary, said the attacks were increasing despite last year's

He quoted statistics from the Families Against Intimidation and Terror, which recorded 158 acts of mutilations, beatings, intimidation and forced exiles this year alone. This compared to a total of 500 last year and 388 in 1997.

Mr Mackay attacked the "evil men" from both republican and loyalist groups who carried out the beatings.

Those who are responsible for these evil, nauseating acts are the same people who signed the Good Friday agreement. The essential part of the agreement was the renunciation of violence in all its forms. It is absolutely clear that the ceasefire is not holding and violence is continuing apace."

He added: "These are not punishment beatings. For my constituents, that sounds like a modest extention of neighbourhood watch. These are mutilations, they are beatings, they

are deliberate." Mr Mackay rejected claims that the victims of attacks were often drug dealers and paedo-

"More often, they are not. it cannot be right in a democracy for any group to take it upon themselves to be the poCommons debate: Mowlam rejects claims that rise in punishment beatings signals end to peace agreement

lice, the judge and the jury and then the executioner."

MPs were debating a Tory motion condemning the at-tacks and calling for a halt to prisoner releases.

Mr Mackay said: "My judgment is that it is far more likely that the beatings will stop if the terrorist prisoners are no He insisted that the Govern-

ment, under the provisions of the Northern Ireland (Sentences! Act, was able to halt the releases without undermining the entire peace agreement.

The victims of the attacks were rarely from the middle-class parts of Northern Ireland. "This has been the poor bloody infantry who have

> 6 It is absolutely clear that the ceasefire is not holding?

been brushed under the carpet and ignored," he said. Mo Mowlam, the Northern ireland Secretary, said that she shared Mr Mackay's dis-

gust and added that the Gov-

ernment had done more than

the previous administration in

helping the victims of paramilitary beatings.

But she insisted that the Tories were wrong to call for an end to releases. "Punishment assaults, beatings, shootings and mutilations have been an unacceptable leature of life in Northern Ireland for far too long. Northern Ireland has suffered from a crisis of confidence. Groups have been commined to violence to achieve their ends. This crisis of confidence has to be addressed. And that is what the Good Fri-

"By creating structures, we will give the communities the confidence to say no - once and for all - to the mutilators and the vigilantes. The people of Northern Ireland are closer now to that than they have ever been. And that is what we risk losing if we go down the route suggested by the Tories."

day agreenment is designed to

She rejected the Tory claims that the beatings implied that the ceasefires had been bro-ken. "I do not believe . . . that if I rewrote the agreement, unilaterally stopping one part — prisoner releases — that the process would stay intact."

Ms Mowlam said she could only act if she had firm evidence of paramilitary involvement in the attacks.
"If I judge that any group's

ceasefire is at an end, then I will stop the releases. That is not my judgment at present." David Trimble, the First Minister of the Northern Ire-

land Assembly, insisted that

ister's statement in the Commons yesterday implied that "terrorist organisations can re-write the agreement at will and killings can go on with im-punity".

Ms Mowiam did not have to

have evidence which was legal-

ly admissible in court before

acting to halt releases. Ms

Mowlam would have difficul-

ty convincing anyone in North-

ern Ireland that she was not re-

ceiving intelligence indicating

that paramilitary organisa-tions were involved in acts of

The suggestion that the agreement would collapse if re-leases were stopped or slowed down would "chill the heart"

of many people in the prov-

ince. That's quite an appalling state of affairs. Prisoner re-

leases are part of the agree-ment, but they are part of the

whole and that includes the

Prisoner

releases are

part of the

Good Friday

agreement?

He said that the Prime Min-

violence, he said.

end of violence."

testing Ms Mowlam's resolve. So far you haven't shown any resolve or willingness to tackle this situation. If you continue to allow them to push you around, the challenge that is going to come up and face us all in a month or two's time will be more difficult."

Seamus Mallon, the Deputy First Minister, said that if the motion was passed, "how then would the Secretary of State solve the problems of these type of brutalities? What-

Ending prisoner releases would scupper the agreement, he said if the deal was swapped for a political vacu-um, "we would throw away the keys to our future, to our peace, we would throw the keys to the leaders of the para-

military groups".

Harry Barnes (Lab. Derbyshire NE) urged the Government to slow down releases in protest, but added: "It would be a problem saying they should be stopped entirely be-cause it would be interpreted by some people as breaching the Belfast agreement."

Michael Mates, the former Tory Northern Ireland Minister warned Ms Mowlam that as more prisoners were released, she was losing the last bargaining card to keep the agreement on track.

He said: "You are going to run out of options. All the prisoners will be out, not one bomb, not one builet, not one gun will have been handed in. What are you going to do

The Tory motion was defeated by 343 to 141, a majority of

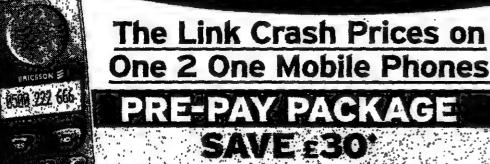


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# Another shooting hours before Commons motion

BY MARTIN FLETCHER CHIEF TRELAND CORRESPONDENT

REPUBLICAN paramilitaries carried out Northern Ireland's twelfth "punishment shooting" of the year just hours before the Conservatives called: for an end to the release of ter-. rorist prisoners in yesterday's Touse of Commons debate.

The paramilitaries dragged a 20-year-old man into a backgarden off a cul-de-sac in a bleak and cheerless post-war housing estate in Anderson's town, West Belfast, late on Tuesday night. They made the man lie down in the mud and shot him through both hands

and his left ankle. No group admits carrying. out the attack but it was obvious from the IRA graffiti on the surrounding walls who controls the estate. Near a gro-cery was written "Not a bullet." not an ounce" and "free all An-

dersonstown's PoWs". The shooting was common-

THE BEATINGS place, but its timing was evi-

dently designed to send a mes-The shooting took place in the garden of two pensioners, Annie and Joseph Barr, whose

down in a recent storm here door said. This sufe he's I heard this terrible noise. I been up to no good. I don't didn't realise it was a shooting. I looked out and there was something in the garden 1

thought it was a dog or some thing," said Mrs Barr. "When I opened the door I. said — whar's happening what's going on This man

just said 'can you call an ambulance? While I was on the phone my husband went out and said he is going to bleed to death. He brought him out a towel and gave him a drink. of water. It was terrible: I have to

Neither Mrs Barr nor anyone else approached by The.
Times on the estate dared spec-

ulate on who might have been responsible, even when asked directly if it was the IRA. But all said that they believed the man must have done some thing to deserve being shot.

My immediate reaction is: he must have done some thing," Mrs Barr said= back gate had been broken. An elderly man who lived down in a recent storm. hear door said. I'm sure he's agree with punishment at-

tacks but something had to be done. The police don't bother." A thirti man, walking home with his shopping, remarked: They don't get it for nothing." . The shot man was stable in

hospital yesterday. The attack brings to 39 the number of shootings and beatings carried out by Republican and loyalist paramilitaries this year despite the ceasefires, the commitment of the paramilitaries? political representatives to ex-clusively peaceful means, and Mo Mowiam's demand of Monday that the "barbaric" at tacks be halted.

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'I decided I would dedicate myself to peace, and I have done that irrespective of consequences — and there have been consequences'

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# The supergrass whose record told on him

BY AUDREY MAGEE TRELAND CORRESPONDENT

EAMON COLLINS died just as he lived for the last 13 years: alone and despised by all but his samily and a few friends. He was an informer who betrayed the IRA but escaped the unusil punishment of a bullet in the back of the head and his corpse left booby trapped south of the border. He survived to follow in the footsteps of Marin McGardand and write about the life in the IRA from the inside. But in like McGartland and

ther specigrasses, Collins re-fused to leave Northern bre-land the insisted that the IRA haid agright to force him into edle. Francally, Collins had re-cently flecided to leave Ulster. He, his wife Bernadette, and four children had been subject-. ed to threats. The house he was removating in Camlough, South Armagh, was burnt to the ground and graffiti telling him to get out of town was

daubed across Newry.
Collins was loathed by the IRA. He claimed they tried to run him down in April 1997, leaving him unconscious, and said they petrol-bombed his car in July 1995.

The 44-year-old made the fae tal mistake of turning against the IRA. He did not try to glamourise it but in Killing Rage described the gritty, cold realities of planning and exe-

Collins being taken into court in Banbridge after

being arrested and charged with murder in 1985

mons motion

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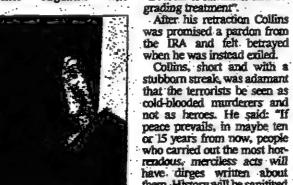


Collin's book described the realities of IRA murders

#### THE MAN

cuting policemen, soldiers and informers. Collins was an intelligence gatherer. He tracked policemen and soldiers as they dropped their children to school, shopped with their wives and went to Sunday service. He tells of murdering one elderly policeman who, sitting in a local pub, pleaded with the IRA: "No boys, not me".

He joined the IRA in the winter of 1978 while working for the British Government as a customs officer on the border. His first assignment was plotting to kill Ivan Toombs, a part time major in the Ulster Defence Regiment who



spotted a Friday morning rou-tine in which Toombs treated colleagues to coffee and tea that provided the IRA gunmen with the perfect opportunity. "At last I have tied him down to one place, only momentariby, but long enough for the gun-men to get in, kill him, and get out again," he said. In the wake of the killing

Collins was "full of a heady mixture of anti-imperialism, anger, sympathy and self-im-portance. He craved the ap-proval of the IRA. He assisted in the murders of at least 15 people. The terrorists relied on him heavily until he identified a Roman Catholic as an RUC detective. The IRA mistakenly murdered Sean McShane.

Collins was debriefed by the terrorists and exonerated. But they were less forgiving two years later when Collins was arrested after the killing of nine policemen in a mortar attack on Newry police station. He cracked after five days of

interrogation and named 50 IRA colleagues in South Armagh and south Down, 12 of whom were charged with serious terrorist charges, including six murders. But Collins retracted his statements and they were released. Collins charged with five murders but released two years later when a judge decided his confessions were induced as "a result of inhuman and de-

was promised a pardon from the IRA and felt betrayed when he was instead exiled.

stubborn streak, was adamant that the terrorists be seen as cold-blooded murderers and not as heroes. He said: "If peace prevails, in maybe ten or 15 years from now, people who carried out the most horthem. History will be sanitised and they will be beroes, but I don't want any part of that. There was nothing heroic about this war."



Earnon Collins, the former IRA man found dead in Newry yesterday, was known to be a target for the terrorists

# 'He knew he was in danger'

By MARTIN FLETCHER CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE former IRA terrorist lived in the constant expectation that the organisation be disowned would return to assassinate him, his lawyer said

"He said to me many times, whenever he was asked, that he was in danger. That was self-evident, Jason McCue said. The one thing I don't think anyone can take away from him is his courage in standing up to the IRA."

Mr Collins received many

threats, direct and indirect. In 1997 he was the target of a hitand-run attack. Last year his father's empty house in South Armagh, was burnt days before he and his family were to move in. "He was very de-Cue said.

Mr Collins had begun to turn against violence even before his trial in 1986, but the experience of his trial contributTHE LAWYER

ed greatly to his change of heart. He had been brought up to believe there was no justice for nationalists in the British courts — yet Mr Justice Higgins found that he had been subjected by police to de-grading and inhuman treatments when he broke under interrogation. Mr Collins retracted his confession in court.

"That judge gave me justice ... and I will never forget that man, and as I sat in the cell in that court I decided if he released me I would dedicate myself to peace, and I have done that irrespective of the

WOITH DUNNE

have been consequences." After retracting his confession, Mr Collins was promised a pardon from the IRA.

Explaining last year why he had attacked the IRA so publicly in his book Killing Rage and on television, he said it was "because the IRA had made an agreement with me which they failed to honour and I felt that at some stage in my life I would tell the truth of that relationship ... It was necessary for my children that they know what their father was and what their father's views were and what their fa-

ther went through." Asked why Mr Collins returned to live in a staunchly Republican estate and in such

WHY WAIT FOR DIGITAL TV?

obvious danger, Mr McCue replied: "That's the milliondollar queston. It's an Irish thing to say: I am not going to give in to these people; this is my home, this is my land. He was also inextricably bound to his hometown and where he was brought up and the idea of leaving that town was very difficult for him." Nor did Mr Collins have much money with which to move

Mr McCue accused Sinn Fein and IRA of grotesque by pocrisy. They are asking unionists and victims to forgive terrorist prisoners yet they can't forgive their own. That's outrageous. On this one they have gone too far."



#### THE INFORMERS

Martin McGartland: first supergrass to write a book, Fifty Dead Men Walking, of his experiences in the IRA. From West Belfast he was recruited by the RUC Special Branch as an informer and subsequently joined the IRA's Belfast Brigade. Now living in hiding in the North of England, he claims to have saved at least 50 lives as "Agent Carol". Raymond Gilmour: tells of

his nine years as an undercover police agent in Londonderry in his book Dead Ground. He joined the Irish National Liberation Army at 16 but switched to the IRA. He now lives on the Continent al-though his family have returned to Northern Ireland. Sean O'Callaghan: author of The Informer, and best known of the IRA informers. He joined the IRA at 15 and was sickened by the violence. From 1979 to 1988 he leaked information to security forces in the Irish Republic. He gave evidence against Thomas "Slab" Murphy last year in a libel case and is in hiding in England.



McGartland in disguise for a BBC documentary

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Franco watches Juan Antonio Samaranch sworn in as a fascist Movimiento Nacional councillor in 1967

# Fascist's rise to Olympic peak

A SINGLE photograph taken some 30 years ago speaks eloquently of the path followed by Juan Antonio Samaranch in his rise to the heights of an Olympic movement shown to be riddled with corruption.

The 1967 photograph depicts the President of the International Olympic Committee, then 46, dressed in the uniform of Spain's Falangist Party as he is sworn in as a member of the national council of General Franco's fascistinspired Movimiento Nacional. It marks just one moment in an unstoppable rise as an apparatchik in General Franco's dictatorship.

It is also a moment conspicuously absent from the biogra-phies of Senor Samaranch handed out from the Olympic headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland. Yet it was this career as a servant of Franco that would propel him on to the Olympic committee and, eventually, to its presidency.

Señor Samaranch began this career during the Spanish Civil War when he was drafted into the government forces fighting Franco's uprising. The young man deserted from

Samaranch is proud of his Francoist past, writes Giles Tremlett in Madrid maranch He was soon dis-

into hiding in his home city of Barcelona. His family claimed later that he had done undercover work for Franco's troops as they marched towards Catalonia. When Franco's forces took over in Barcelona, Señor Samaranch followed a double career as a politician and sports administrator inside

The smooth Catalan, whose wealthy family owned textile

and political manoeuvring necessary to progress through the ranks. He got himself appointed first to the city council, then to the provincial council and, eventually, to Franco's rubber-stamp parliament in Madrid. He joined the Traditional

Spanish Falangist Party in 1955. Stiff-armed fascist sa-

mills, proved expert at the mix-ture of obeisance to the regime Palangist anthem Cara at Sol became an essential part of his career progress. Letters to superiors were signed: "Always at your orders. I salute with my arm held high."

He became junior minister for sport and, as head of the Spanish Olympic Committee, at the Mexico City Games in 1968, exhorted athletes to show "we Spaniards are becoming a lutes and the chanting of the more virile and potent race".

By the time Franco died and democracy came to Spain in 1975, he was the regime's boss in Barcelona and an IOC vicepresident. He had also ineased his personal wealth by, among other things, building ugly high-rise flats for immigrants on Barcelona's out-

After the dictator's death, protesters took to the city streets shouting: "Out with Sa-

### Scandal claims Kenyan victim

Nairobi: The Kenyan mem-ber of the International Olympic Committee resigned yesterday amid the continuing Olympic bribery scandal, but insisted that he was innocent of any wrongdoing and merely a victim of circumstances (Robin Lodge writes). Charles Nderitu Mukora,

who is also chairman of the National Olympic Committee of Kenya, was one of six IOC members advised last week by Juan Antonio Samaranch resign following revela-

tions of cash handouts from cities hoping to host the Games. Mr Mukora is alleged to have taken £20,000 from the authorities in Salt Lake City, which was awarded the 2002 Winter Games.

"I have never been party to any improper activities in my 40 years in sport," Mr Mulio-ra said yesterday, "No incen-five was requested nor given to me personally, I have not. used the momes for personal purposes. I was an innocent

However, he did acknow edge that he had received money from Salt Lake City to fund his athletes training camp in Nanyuki, on the

slopes of Mt Kenya.

He also said that Kenya had been granted facilities for its afhletes to train at the Australian Institute of Sport by Sydney, host of the 2000

The only right thing for Charles to do is to call it quits," one Kenyan sports offi-

patched to Moscow to become Spain's Ambassador and, three years later, took over the IOC presidency. Six years af-ter that Barcelona was awarded the 1992 Games.

Spain has been happy draw a veil over Senor Sama rench's past. For many years he was the most prominent Spaniard cutside Spain and many, esperially fellow Cata-lans, see him as a man who successfully made the transi-tion from literatorship to democracy. Shortly after those Games, King Juan Carlos awarded him the title of marques. He likes to be re-

marques, He likes to be re-ferred to as "His Excellency". He became enraged when a CBS television journalist started gilling him about his fascist days during last year's Winter Games in Nagano, Japan. He wanted the interview rerun, but CBS refused. The incident helped to re-

veal that he had no regrets. I said I was with Franco. As well as 40 million Spaniards. he said, wrongly assuming that most Spaniards had supperted the dictator. "I am very proud of my past and what I did for my country."

# Brussels spin doctors told truth must often be hidden

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

A TEAM of experts was appointed last night to investigate allegations of corruption against European Commissioners, but efforts to clean up the image of the Brussels executive were marred by an embarrassing blunder by its own spin doctors.

The Commission's media service accidentally released an internal memorandum that called for a measure of "hypocrisy" and evasion when deal-

ing with the press.
The Commission should not get carried away by the idea of "transparency", it said. "It is necessary to learn how to conceal aspects of information , which could give rise to

bad interpretation. The note was drafted by the :: spokesman for Edith Cresson, the Commissioner most under fire over allegations of nepo-

INSURANCE

The spokeswoman for Jacques Santer, President of the Commission, tried to play down the memo as a personal contribution to the attempt to revamp media strategy.

The need for this became

urgent after the crisis this month in which the European Parliament came close to censuring Mr Santer and his 19 Commissioners over claims of incompetence and corruption. The blunder of the note's release spoke volumes for the disarray in the Commission as it faces charges of cover-up and a culture of secrecy from politicians and media.

Mme Cresson is one of the main targets of the five experts who were picked by the Parliament and Commission to investigate allegations of abuses. The creation of the group of former high officials from the tism, according to officials. Court of Justice, the Court of last night denounced the inves-boldened Parliament.

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Auditors and the Strasbourg Court of Human Rights was agreed in the deal two weeks ago which enabled Commissioners to escape a parliamen-tary vote that could have dismissed them.

The experts - from Germany, France, Belgium, Spain and The Netherlands — are due to report to the Parliament within a month. They will then start a broader inquiry into mismanagement of the spending programmes run by the Commission.

The executive, which has promised to give the investigators free access to documents and staff, yesterday agreed on a timetable for a new code of conduct for Commissioners and new staff rules that would outlaw cronyism and other questionable practices.

British Conservative MEPs

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tigation as insufficiently independent Edward McMillan-Scott, leader of the Tory group, regretted that there would be no British influence and said the Commission was still seeking to control its work. He added: This has been launched to get Commission officials off the hook, but if it confirms that there is a culture of cover-up it

Mukora: claims that he is

will have served a purpose." Pauline Green, the Labour MEP who heads the dominant Socialist bloe in the Parlia-ment, promised that the assembly would be merciless if

wrongdoing was found. European governments are eager to avoid any further crisis as the Union enters a period of intense negotiations over spending reform, but a negative report by the investigators could spark a fresh showdown with the newly em-

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Julie Scully, apparently the victim of jealous rage, had decided to return to America

### Greek sailor 'beheaded' and burnt' US model

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

AN AMERICAN model who moved to Greece to marry a sailor she met on holiday has been found burnt and decapitated in a remote swamp. Her Greek boyfriend, who had gone on television to plead for information on her whereabouts, led police to her charred remains and has been

charged with murder. The torso of Julie Scully, known in her home state of New Jersey as a newspaper "Page 6" pin-up, was discovered in a suitcase outside the northern city of Kavala. Her head had apparently been cut

off and tossed into the sea. Ms Scully, 31, of Mansfield, New Jersey, moved to Kavala last month and planned to marry George Skiadopoulos. a petty officer seven years her junior whom she met on a Caribbean cruise. According to General Pavlos Roubis, bead of Athens security police, Mr Skiadopoulos, 24, was "blind-



Skiadopoulos: has made a rambling confession

ed by his passion" when he strangled her on January 8 during an argument on a muddy farm road. Mr Skiadopoulos, he add-

ed, was about to be drafted into the army and Ms Scully was preparing to return to America and her three-yearold daughter. According to the police Mr Skiadopoulos. doused her with petrol and set a suitcase, using a hacksaw to cut off her head so the body would fit inside. He then went to Athens and concocted a story about her disappearing after a row, before making a

rambling confession.

Ms Scully met Mr Skiadopoulos when on the cruise with her successful husband, Tim Nist. The three became friends, but then she asked for a divorce. "For me the toughest part about it is that I sn't there to protect her,"
Nist said Mr Nist said

Ms Scully's mother, Julia, said that the Greek had been an "addiction" for her daughter. "I told her not to trust him. But she said 'mom. you read too many novels

But Ms Scully had reportedly told her family on January 6 that she missed her daughter and wanted to return to New Jersey.

In her divorce settlement she had received \$600,000 (£361,400), much of which she had taken with her to Greece.

#### Dayton style' talks in Kosovo crisis

BY MICHAEL EVAN DEFENCE EDITOR

A NEW plan for resolving the crisis in Kosovo was emeging yesterday, with the six-fation Contact Group expected to order both sides to attendpeace talks in a neutral European

Country.

The plan, which is lifely to be announced in Paris procerow, will be backed by a strong warming from Nato to-day about the possibility of airstrikes if Belgrade continues to defy the international chann-nity over senting the billical figure of the Yugsola prov-

Washington's call foran ultimatum from Nato, effetively giving a countdown o military action, continue to be firmly opposed by the Europe-an members of the allance.

According to distornatic sources, the only timerable to be imposed on the two sides in the Kosovo conflict vill be given by the Contat Group which will demand bat negotiations must begin within a set period, possibly a veek, and that the talks must also be concluded within a cerain time

table, maybe ten days.

The sources said tlat if Belgrade refused to antid the ne-Rotiations, "that's wich Nato will step in to make it clear that airstrikes could bllow.

The talks would it in the style of the Dayton negotial. tions which ended the war in Bosnia, with the firs discussions involving each ade talking to mediators - and then face to face meetings to negor iate a detailed settlement.

The key mediators yould b Christopher Hill, the American envoy whose play for the future political status of Ko-ovo will be the basis for the talks, and Wolfgang Petritsch the European Union envoy fir the region. The Hilliplan involves a large degree of self-government for Kosovo, but not independence.

The diplomatic sources s they expected Ibrahim Rujova, the leader of the moderate ethnic Albanians in Kosovo to agree to attend the talks. It vill be more difficult to persuide. representatives from the fos-ovo Liberation Army to ake part. The KLA has been fighting for independence. Dragobilje, Yugoslavia: Gov-

ernment troops backer by tanks pounded ethnic Apanian strongholds along a trategic highway yesterday. The attack was launched shorty atter dawn in an apparint attempt to push the KL away from the main highway linking the province with the Yugoslav capital Belgrade, AP)



# Grandmother finds child given up for dead

FROM ANNA BLUNDY IN MOSCOW

WHEN Nadezhda Pugayeva

received a note from her sonin-law in 1990 saying "Mum! Me and Olga have had a son!" she could not have foreseen the eight years of anguish that were to follow.

Aleksandr and Olga Digul-yev's son, Sergei, was diag-nosed as fatally ill and hospital staff advised the young couple to give him up to a chil-

dren's home, since he would certainly die, Komsomolskaya Pravda reported yesterday. Three days later the Digul-yevs were told that their son

had died. But Mrs Pugayeva could never bring herself to believe it. "I always felt he was alive," she said.

Her hopes were confirmed late last year when by chance she came across a woman who had worked at the Zasviyazhskii Home, not far from the town of Nizhny Novemod.

where little Sergei had allegedly perished. I am sure I know a boy of

that name," said the woman, and the search was on Although Sergei liad been moved three times since his. birth, after a few telephone calls he was found alive and well in a nearby orphanage.

Mrs Pugayeva first went to visit her grandson without telling his mother. When she apwho she was he hard into

tears and shouted: "Granny!" I knew him immidiately," she said. "He looks just like Sasha Ihis father]." O Novernber 10 last year Singer was finally taken home by his proud parents eightyears late. It is still common to ahan-don sickly infants to the state in Russia, where of per cent of children in orphanges have one or both parent still fiving. Often the defects that result in proached him and told him a child's institutionalisation

Hill may pas prote

wo iff

censure, and then we would

Explaining why she voted

for witnesses, Republican Senator Susan Collins of Maine said "I am one of several Re

publican senators who is truly

struggling with how to vote

on the articles of impeachment

ess, if followed properly, arrived at the acquittal or con-

☐ Physicist's visit: President

Clinton yesterday had discus-

sions with Stephen Hawking.

the Cambridge University physicist and author of A Brief History of Time (Damian

viction of the President.

Whitworth writes).

"I need more evidence" to arrive at a decision, she said. She did not mind whether the proc-

against the President.

move on," he said.

# Senators vote for evidence from Lewinsky

Former White House trainee and two Clinton advisers

on trial subpoena list, reports Bronwen Maddox

MONICA LEWINSKY and two presidential advisers must testify in person before the Senare, senators insisted yester-day, after blocking an attempt to scrap the trial of President

in a break with its tradition of "open government" the Sen-ate plans to deploy a small team to question the three witnesses on videotape, play-ing the interviews later to the full Senate in secret.

But yesterday's two votes, which tell almost exactly along party lines, left senators still temused about whether they had helped to bring a quick end to the saga or had inflicted on themselves yet more months of bitter controversy,

As the Pope briefly drove the Lewinsky saga off the nation's television screens, senators said that they had taken one step forward towards resolving the Chriton impeachment trial. But many were alraid that yesterday's move might prove to be three steps back.
The Senate blocked a Demo-

cratic attempt to dismiss the trial immediately by a 56-44 margin. One Democrat — Russ Pringold of Wisconsin voted with the Republicans to keep the trial going. Instead,

the Republican majority pushed through a second motion to extend the trial by calling witnesses.

motion

Again, Mr Feingold, who has said he was "disturbed" by the White House case, was the sole Democrat to cross the aisle. The prosecution — 13 Republican managers from the House of Representatives -

President's old friend Verson strongly support a motion of Jordan, and the White House censure, and then we would

ralled foul, saying it was being blind-sided by the Senate plan, and mocked the notion that interviewing witnesses could be done quickly. It has the notion of the senate threatened an "age of discovery" - spending weeks or months on the legal processes

White House lawyers hinted yesterday that it could take weeks simply to prepare the three witnesses for interview. Mr Jordan is out of the country and the date of his return is uncertain, while Mr Blumenthal's lawyers are engaged in a trial in Baltimore of indefinite

Senators and House managers were praying that the White House team, as keen as anyone to see an end to the saga, was bluffing. They may try to pacify Mr Clinton's team with a deal such as "Monicawithout-sex" - holding back from questioning the 25 yearold about intimate details of her affair with the President.

The vote to subporna three witnesses, while expected, will come as a blow to Ms Lewinsky, who is said to have cried herself to sleep before return-ing to Washington last Sunday to talk to the House prose-



day showed that he had no of the trint of the Levinsky scindal (Bronwen Mad-dox writes). Bob Dole, who lost to Mr Clinton in the 1996 presidential election, and his wife Elizabeth, who is contemplating running for the White House in 2000, are thinking of buying the for-mer Levinsky apartment next door to their own in the Watergate block. At the height of the Lewinsky media frenzy a year ago. Bob Dole said drily

ly quickly past her door, to ter. He has shown amuse-ment rather than bitterness at the scandal, even though, had it broken during the presidential campaign, he might well have won Reports suggest the Doles are tempted by notions of breaking through the walls between the two apart ments, giving Elizabeth Dole more space in her Washing ton home as she plans her political future.



Hillary: failed attempt to set South Pole record

#### Polar trek runs out of time

Scott Base: Three weary adventurers who failed in an attempt to be the first to walk to the South Pole and back unaided were flown back to base yesterday.

Australians John Muir

and Eric Philips and New Zealander Peter Hillary gave up their attempt after reaching the South Pole on Tuesday. They spent the night at the US Amundsen-Scott Base before abandoning their 84-day expedition and taking a US Hercules shuttle flight back to Wil-

lams Field near here. Mr Hillary, son of Sir Edmund Hillary, the Everest conqueror, said they gave up the return leg because they could not guarantee reaching Scott Base by February 7
when air operations cease
for the winter. He said be would not make a second attempt, preferring to tackle something new (AFP) aide Sidney Blumenthal.
The White House yesterday

of discovery and deposition.

length, they let it be known.

After the votes Tom Daschle. the Senate Minority Leader, said: "For the good of the countes, it is time to dismiss this trial." The party-line votes, he said, showed that the prosecution would never win the 67 have named three they want to votes needed to remove the summon: Ms Lewinsky, the President from office. "I would

#### Hillary may seek post as professor By DAMIAN WHITWORTH

IN WASHINGTON

ONE of the most enduring topics of conversation in Washington - whither Hillary Clinton? - took a new form yesterday after a report that she might be looking for a job at her daughter's university.
The New York Post said that

discreen inquiries were being made by those close to her about the possibility of a chair being created for the First Lady at Stanford University Law School in California

The suggestion that Mrs Clinton might head for the West Coast when her hus-band's term ends at the beginning of 2001 will alarm those who want her to launch her

own political career.
But for Mrs Clinton, who was a lawyer in Arkansas and the family's chief breadwinner while her husband was Governor of the Southern state, a hicrative academic job would be an attractive proposition.

A respected chair or professorship would give her time to pursue other interests. She is believed to want a role with an

international agency or charity that involves travel. Mr Clinton is also said to favour making a home in California where he has friends in the film business and could indulge his passion for golf.

However, the pressure on Mrs Clinton to run for the Sen-ate continues to build. Senator Robert Torricelli recently said that he expected Mrs Clinton to run in New York for the seat being vacated in 2000 by the veteran Democrat, Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

A poll this week showed that New Yorkers favour Mrs Clinton over the Mayor, Rudolph Giuliani. Mrs Clinton's spokes woman said she had no plans to run for elective office.



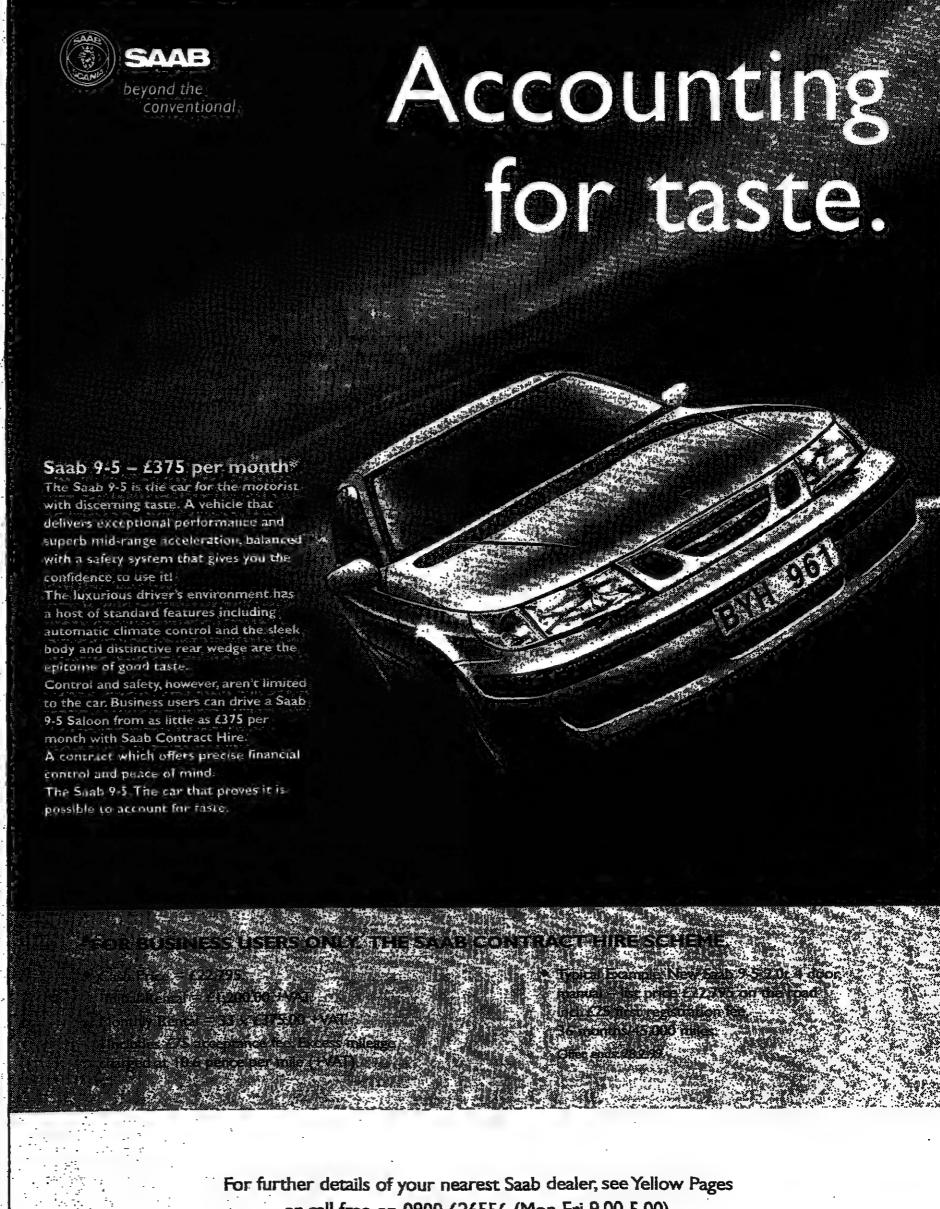
#### 100,000 pray with Pope in St Louis

Washington: The Pope cele-brated Mass with 100,000 worshippers yesterday at what was claimed as the biggest indoor gathering in America (Damian Whitworth writes).

Trans World Dome, a football stadium in St Louis, Missouri, the Pope delivered a homily in front of a crucifix and a replica of the arch that dominates the city's skyline. His two-day trip was scheduled to conclude with evening prayers in front of a large crowd at the St Louis Vice-President Al Gore.

The previous evening the Pope had attended a "Light of the World" youth gathering, where young people listened to rock bands before he appeared. He warned his cheerng audience of 20,000 at the St Louis Kiel Centre basketball and hockey arena against drifting into a world "filled with darkness" and rife with violence, drugs and easy sex. President Clinton, who welcorned the Pope to America,

said he had found him "clear.



or call free on 0800 626556 (Mon-Fri 9.00-5.00). Alternatively, visit our website at www.saab.co.uk







leison Garzón, 12, peers from the ruins of a building in Armenia yesterday before being freed by Red Cross workers. He escaped with minor injuries, despite being buried for 38 hours

# Plucked from Colombia hell

HEAVY rain and intermittent aftershocks hampered rescue operations in Colombia's Andean coffee-growing heartland where more than 2,000 are feared dead after Monday's earthquake. Hopes of finding more survivors, under mountains of rubble that engulied much of five towns and dozens of rural villages, faded.

But there were still stories with happy endings. Rescuers, above, pulled Jeison Garzon. 12, from the wreckage of a building just before dawn yes-terday. He had only scratches. Thousands of homeless sur-

vivors, meanwhile, faced a third night without electricity and water supplies, huddled around fires in the streets, wrapped in whatever clothes or blankets they could retrieve from crumbled homes.

Hundreds built makeshift shelters from scraps and sheets of tarpaulin, and stood around, stunned, waiting for rescue teams to reach them. One elderly man and his two ten-year-old granddaughters sat on three chairs on top of ineir crumbied concrete nousi

which had been swallowed by the earthquake. They sat stunned, watching the destruction around them and barely able to speak. Many survivors dug with

their bare hands to bury the bodies of relatives. But Jorge Jaramillo was one of the few to find a coffin — for his 20-year-old son, Carlos Antonio, and his two-year-old grandson. Santiago. "I walked ten miles to a nearby village to give my loved ones a decent burial." said the 76-year-old coffee farm worker who, like thou-sands in the district of Nueva

Brasilia, has lost everything. Officials yesterday reported that 756 bodies had been recovered, hauled from rubble that covered the once leafy, colonial city of Armenia and neighbouring Calarca, in the prov-ince of Quindio. Much of the old centre of Pereira, in the province of Riveralda, was also destroyed.

But the death toll is expected. to rise and estimates say 2,000 people at least are unaccount-ed for so far. Red Cross, civil desence and arm in a poor district of Armenia, teams have reached only the



Bad weather and aftershocks hold back rescuers, reports Gabriella Gamini from the scene in Quindio province

centre of urban areas; surrounding villages remain iso-lated. "Even in the cities, we have managed to reach only a tiny part of the disaster zone. and hopes of finding survivors under debris in these conditions are fast running out," said Walter Cote, director of the Red Cross in Colombia. "We have dug up only 25 per cent of the affected area."

He described the situation "extremely critical", add-"Rain is causing landslides on the roads that connect the region to other prov-

inces, and is delaying efforts to start digging up mountains of debris in the cities." More than 1.800 rescue workers were deployed to the region, 100 miles west of Bogotá, but it is predicted that it will be days before they reach most of the affected areas.

President Pastrana, who on Tuesday toured the area, said there was a \$15 million (E9 million) disaster fund. Colombia has been pledged up to \$100 million in international aid. A ten-man team of British rescue

The scale of the disaster is seen at its starkest in a large half at the University of Quindio in Armenia, now a mortu-

also on the way...
Emergency air services have been set up between Armenia and Bogota to fly to bospitals some of the thousands reported injured in the tremor. which was six on the Richter scale. Only the hospital in Calarca withstood the disaster, and most of the injured are be-ing treated in makeshift shelters. So far 132 people have been flown out of the region. The Mayor of Armenia, Al-varo Patino, wants to evacuate

the town centre, fearing remaining buildings will tumble. "But we cannot evacuate until we have tried to dig up as. many bodies or even survivors that could still be waiting un-derground," he said. Senor Patino's city has been the worst affected because most of its colonial centre was built on soft volcanic ash.

ary where more than 300 corpses await identification. body of a three-year-old child ... hurting my baby," she said,

ing: "I should never have left ber alone in the house." Arme-nia's sports hall also held rows of unidentified bodies. "Decomposing bodies threaten an epidemic of disease. We cannot wait to bury these people,"

said Señor Patino. The Governor of the province, Henry Gomez Tabarez yesterday made a radio appeal for coffins after the shortage led black marketeers to de-mand \$1,500 for anything re-sembling a long wooden box. In areas of Armenia reached

by rescuers, tragedly and ap-parent miracles unfold side by side. As civil defence workers pulled the unscathed Jeison Carrin from a four-storey building Juan Rate Ossa, a doctor, identified the lifeless body of his mother under con-

Dora Real. 26 and her five-month old daughter were pulled alive forestades three houses a party thing fall-ing on top of me. The kitchen stove and the fridge flew to-

#### WORLD IN BRIEF

in P

# Rock row fuelled by fishing arrests

Gibraltar: Abel Matutes, the Spanish Foreign Minister, ves-ierday threatened reprisals against Gibraltar after news that

ierday inceatened reprisals against Gibraltar after news that
14 fishermen had been arrested with their trawier Ln Pirana
after breaching Gibraltar's laws forbidding the use of nets in
British coastal waters (Dominique Searle writes).
Robin Cook the Foreign Secretary, and Senor Matutes last
year declared that they had reached an understanding that
would allow traditional fishing if levels returned to those tolerated before 1997. But the fishermen, faced with failing fish
stocks and a tough fishing policy from Morocco, have been stocks and a lough fishing policy from Morocco, have been openly defying British sovereignly.

#### Mitterrand's gag

probe, allegedly to head off a realous magistrate investigating the business affairs of Roger-Patrice Felat, a friend of the late President, and looking into the allocation of government, apartments to Mitterrand's mistress and his illegitimate daughter (Ben-Macintyre writes). Le Parisien published a letter to François Leotard, then Defence Minister, calling for action against Thierry Jean-Pierre, a Le Mans magistrate.

#### Freetown death toll

Frectown: In the first official estimate of the number of dead since lighting broke out in the Sierra Leone capital early this month, authorities said that 2.768 bodies had been collected month, authorities said that 2./08 bodies had been conscied around the city by Jamary 23. Hospital sources claimed the death foll was much higher. Renewed shelling and mortar fire broke out on the western edge of the Freetown peninsula, a day after the Nigerian-led intervention force declared it would launch an offensive against rebels. (AFP)

#### Diana author sued

Nairobi: A Kenyan judge is to sue Andrew Morton, right, author, of Diana: Her True Soory, over latege from in his latest book, a biography of President Moi. Mr Justice Richard Kwarh said a section of the book—Moi: The Making of an African Statesman—dealing with the can Statesman — dealing with the murder in 1990 of Robert Ouko, the former Foreign Minister, libels him by instituating that he was suscept-ible to manipulation.



### Scolded son shot sister

Minipola, Florida: An 11-lear-old boy shot and killed his 13-year-old sister after his mother told him off, a deputy sheriff told a court here. Patrick Domanic Boykin Jr told an emergency telephone operator that he shot his sister, Constance, because his mother had hit him after a dispute with the girl. On a tape-recording the boy is heard saying: "I shot my stifer. I got whupped twice. Then I got real mad." He, has been charged with first degree murder. (AP)

Cold snap in Lapland

Helsinki. A wave of Arche air sweet northern Finland and Sweden with temperatures in Lanland falling to a 130 year record of 1987 [51]. The Finnish National Meteorological Institute said the temperature was recorded at Kittila 125 miles from the Arche Circle in 1862, also in Lapland, a reading of minus -60.3F (-51.3C) was recorded. (AFP)

### Northern Rock Group Preliminary Results

for the year ended 31 December 1998

#### Highlights

- Pro forma post tax profits up by 10.3% to £136.6 million - a return on equity of 19.1%
- Assets Increased by 14.8% to £18.2 billion
- Cost: asset ratio down to 0.64%
- Net lending of £1.8 billion
- Net retail receipts of £901 million
- Wholesale funding amounting to £1.3 billion.
- £10.1 million covenanted to The Northern Rock Foundation
- Total dividend up 14.3%<sup>(4)</sup> to 12.0p per share

#### Leo Finn, Chief Executive, said

"Against a background of uncertain economic conditions in the UK and intense competition in our core markets of mortgage lending and retail savings, Northern Rock has produced another strong performance.

"Our products are attractive to customers. Volume growth together with increasing efficiency brings appropriate rewards to shareholders."

The 1997 comparative figures in the profit and loss account and belonge sheet ha aled to include amortisation of goodwill as a prior year adjustment in

Earnings per share are calculated by reference to reported profit on ordinar ies after tax. Pro forma earnings per share are based on reported profit on activities after tax adjusted to exclude any exceptional costs and amortisation of goodwill but include a full year's covenant to The Northern Rock Foundation. Earnings per share figures have been calculated on the basis that 444

Post tax profit growth is calculated by reference to proforms post tax profit to. reported profit on ordinary activities after tax adjusted to exclude any except costs and amortisation of goodwill but include a full year's coverant to The

Total dividend growth is calculated by reference to 1997 are forms lotal dividend of

milion shares were in issue from 1 January 1997

# Summary Consolidated Profit and Loss Account

Net interest income	287.3	277.0
Fees, commissions and other income	49.8	38.0
Total income	336.9	315.0
Administrative expenses		
operating	(99.7)	572.S)
. exceptional	0.0	(35.2)
coverant to The Northern Flock Foundation	(50.1)	(2.0)
Total administrative expenses	(109.8)	(130.1)
Depreciation and amortisation		
operating	(8.2)	(7.4)
exceptional	0.0	(12.0)
Amortisation of goodwill	0.0	(10.3)
Total depreciation and amortisation	· (8.2)	(29.7)
Operating expenses	(118.0)	(159.8)
Provisions for bad and doubtful debts	(18.3)	(17.0)
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	202.5	138.2

Tax on profit on ordinary activities Profit on ordinary activities aft Profit retained for the period Earnings per share (2)

Pro forma earnings per share (2)

136.6 73.3 (53.3) (31.1) 83.3 42.2 30.80 16.50 30.8p 27.90

66.Q

Summary Consolidated Balance She	et	
	1998	1997
•	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
•	Ų	As Restated)**
	£m °	· £m
lesets .		
ash, treasury bills and other eligible bills	11.5	47.0
gens and advances to banks.	1,153.1	852.2
cens and advances to customers	14,708.1	12,939.4
Debt securities	2,002.4	1,705.7
bed and other assets.	232.1	274.0
iotal assets	18,157.2	15.818.3
<u> Jabilitles</u>		
Deposits by banks	847.8	424.1
Justomer accounts	12,298.2	11,284.7
Oebt securities in issue	3,403.0	2552.4
Other liabilities	546.1	478.3
Subordinated liabilities	305.9	305.9
Equity shareholders' funds	758.2	674.9

18,157.2

15,818.3

### Gloomy Japan heeds words of doom from Nostradamus

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

ANY foreigner stumbling into the so-called "Nostradamus corner" of a Tokyo bookshop might be forgiven for believ ing Japan to be a nation of manie depressives. Here customers snap up the doom-laden predictions of the 16thcentury French astrologer as if there were no tomorrow.

With similar urgency, Japa-nese publishers are racing to get new books on the shelves before July 4 when a war will break out that will destroy a third of the world's populion - should Nostradam Drove correct.

One major Tokyo bookshop boasts 185 titles devoted to Nostradamus, five published this month alone. The series that has so far sold six

million copies, advise readers to take the doomsday prophecies to heart and prepare for

Plagued by the deepest World War, a record level of company bankrupcies and the worst unemployment in recent memory, the Japanese seem only too ready to believe an even bigger catastrophe is only months away. One poll showed that about 20 per cent lend credence to the Nostradamus scenario.

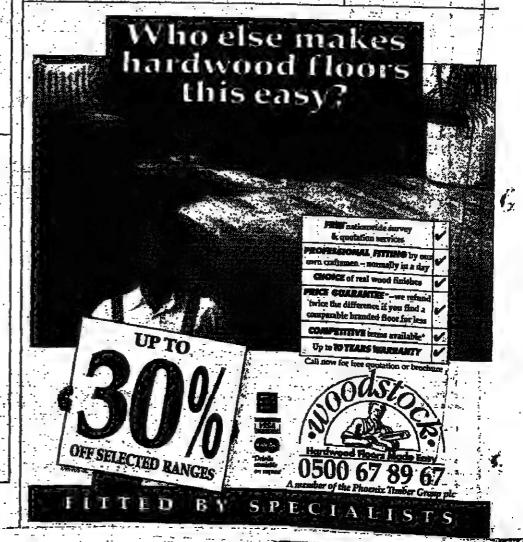
This is not the first such boom to sweep Japan — there was a similar avalanche of books during the Gulf War, which believers also said was foreshadowed in Nostrada-

In fact, Nostradamus at his

national tendency to look on the black side whenever possi le, say some commentators an has the world's sec-

ond biggest economy, relative income equity and virtually no poverty, yet even seriou publications, looking ahead to the new year, compared the country to the Titanic steaming towards disaster,





### MORTHERN ROCK

10.5p per share.

Notes

This advertisement contains only a summary of the 1998 Preliminary Results statement Issued by Northern Rock on Wednesday 27 January 1999. A copy of the full statement can be obtained by writing to the Company Secretary, Northern Rock Plc., Northern Rock House, Gosforth, Newcastie upon Tyne NE3 4PL or from the Northern Rock Website: www.northemrock.co.uk

# Jordan palace tries to stifle talk of feud

AMID rumours of a possible abdication for health reasons by the absent King Hussein. chis ruling family yesterday struggled to boost support for the inexperienced new Crown Prince Abdullah, 36, and to patch up palace feuds threaten-

row fuelled

ling arrests

The death toll

a author sued

ing Jordan's stability.

Despite government denials, resident diplomats confirmed that the armed forces were on alert in case of subversion by neighbouring Syria or internal strife by Islamic extremists or disgruntled backers of the former Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal.

Jordanian officials added to the uncertainty that has seen more than \$200 million (£123 million) withdrawn from the kingdom in recent months by declaring themselves "very worried" about the 63-year-old monarch's failing health. One said that the King's condition had "deteriorated sharply".

The new prognosis has exacerbated anxiety among Jordan's 4.6 million people who have been given little to go on beyond the bare facts that the

Kingdom's rulers stage show of support for heir apparent, writes Christopher Walker in Amman

Army and intelligence chiefs, foreign diplomats, poli-

ticians and members of the

Government gathered in Amman's Raghadan Palace at

ma when the ousted Crown

that has split the royal family, and still smarting from accusa-tions by his brother the King

that he had "abused power" in

the six months of Hussein's ab-

10am to pay their respects. There was a moment of dra-

King was rushed back to the on a huge show of support for US for urgent cancer treatine man they are sure will ment on Tuesday. "We are decreased to be supported to the man they are sure will stone be supported to the man they are sure will stone be supported to the man they are supported to the man they

"We are desperate to know the truth about his condition. but only the foreigners will tell us: the others are all too frightened about how we may re-act," said a 46-year-old Am-man shopkeeper who asked for her name not to be printed.

The official revealed that the Prince Hassan, 51, portly and King had been suffering from high fevers from the first day after he returned in triumphfrom a supposed six-month cure for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma over a week ago. His weaken condition could indicate an "infection" or a "reappearance of lymphoma which would be much more serious". As government employees

sence, the Prince broke into the queue of dignatories to offer his good wishes. "May you be successful, inshallah (God willing)," the replaced portraits of Hassan with those of Abdullah, royal protocol officers were laying deposed Prince told his neph-

ew, having earlier - according to senior palace sources, resisted attempts by the ailing Hussein to persuade him to re-sign from the position of heir apparent which he had held since 1965. He had built up a cadre of senior officials and members of the security apparatus loval to him and expectant of future favours who now face a bleak future.

"Hassan is trouble; his wife (Princess Sarvath) is trouble. They have been trying together to grab power for them-selves and their own family," said an elderly Amman inhab-itant who would talk only at monstachioed, strode in about 30 minutes late. Under pres-sure to signal an end to the rift

an isolated spot in the city.
The rumour mill has begun
to turn against Hassan. He is depicted as having too great a sympathy for Islamic extremists, accused of being coverily pro-Israeli because he studied Hebrew at Oxford, and even of plotting a coup d'état.
"Of course, he is not happ

and in shock at changes which he did not foresee," said an aide. "But he is not about to



The new Crown Prince Addullah, King Hussein's eldest son, reviewing a guard of honour in Amman yesterday



A US FISE Strike Eagle returns to base at Incirlik in Turkey after a mission over the Iraqi no-fly zone

### Iraq MPs call for revolts in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

IRAQ courted further isolation in the Arab world yesterday when its rubber-stamp parliament orged the people of Knywait and Saudi Arabia ळ त्यस्य supporting the British and American airstrikes on Iraq last month.

A statement issued after a two-day session of the 250-seat parliament said Iraq gave up hopes of support from Arab states when a recent meeting of the Arab Leagueissued a resolution critical of Baghdad fraq would now focus on "Arab masses who stood against the December aggression", it said

The statement echoed the call from President Saddam Hussein for ordinary Arabs to topple governments that had close ties to Washington. It now gives him ostensible support for his attempts to cow Saudi Arabia and Kuwaii into withdrawing permission for US and British military bases

on their territory.

The parliament also demanded compensation from both countries for "aggres-sion" against Baghdad and targed Arab states to flout trade sanctions. But it resisted more inflammatory calls from some deputies to withdraw. recognition of Kuwait.

The parliamentary invecive against "hired regimes". in the Arab world came amid reports that Abu Nidal, one of the world's most feared terrorists, has been in Baghdad since early December and enjoys Saddam's protection.

There was speculation that the isolated and increasingly frustrated Iraqi leader might help the Palestinian rene-gade, responsible for killing nundreds of people in the

1970s and 1980s, to revitalise his terrorist network to strike at Baghdad's enemies.

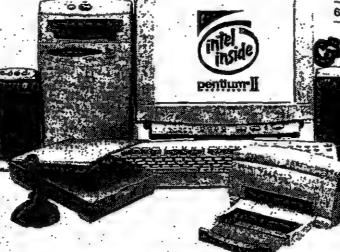
His presence in Iraq, if confirmed, would add yet anothincreasingly unstable situa-tion in the Guif. In response to almost daily challenges, Washington disclosed that since Operation Desert Fox it had adopted a more aggressive policy to protect Ameri-can and British aircraft policing Iraqi no-fly 20nes. It allows its pilots to retaliate against a wider range of Iraqi. air defence sites if attacked and not simply those that pose

the immediate threat. Baghdad insisted it would not be intimidated. Traq will continue to challenge with all its capabilities and means American and British planes which violate our air space," said Taha Yassin Ramadan, Iraq's Vice President

Abu Nidal's organisation, the Fatah Revolutionary Council, was racked by bloody feuding in the early 1990s, but still has 200 to 300 followers who have remained active in recent years, particularly against Arab targets. Although responsible for the deaths of at least ten Britons, his group has not attacked British or US targets for a decade. Saddam has also generally shunned the use of terrorism abroad for more than a decade, ejecting Abu Nidal from Baghdad in 1983 when he needed .Western support

for his war against Iran.
"Abu Nidal's network is not what it was, but it could still cause problems in the Arab world and Europe if Saddam decides to pump money into it," said a Western source in





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Complaint by Mr Lionel Anthony Summary of Adjudication

from Mr Liconel Austracy of surjust or unfair treatment in an edicion of the Tennary Boyd Show, broadens: by Talk Radio on 29 July 1998. The programme fragmed a phone in discussion about diving instructors. Mr

and Commission noted that Mr Anthony's commission was measurily long for a programme of this type. It considered that he was afforded a reasonable opportunity to respond to Mr Boyd's sestements and that he did so closely, sensibly and with dignity. The Commission found no unfairness in this respect.

Anthony was insolved and abused by Mr Boyd. While recognising that the release and conferenceional nature of the programme was well and likely to be familiar to Mr Anthony, the level of age

Standary, London, SWIP MS. A copy of the sameny is available on the

# Pill helps to prevent asthma



**Dr Thomas Stuttaford** reports on a new asthma drug; eyedrops for glaucoma that reduce the need for surgery; pills to control cholesterol; and a breakthrough in the treatment of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma

rank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, was in benevolent form when he presented the annual Prix Galien awards at the Stationer's Hall in London this week. These prizes are awarded to those companies within the pharmaceutical industry that have recently introduced the most useful and innovative products. The medication is expected to conform to that cliched

concept — a "breakthrough".

A second award is given for commendable pharmaceutical research and develop-ment. This was presented to Cambridge Antibody Technology Ltd in recognition of its unique libraries of human antibodies and, more specifically, for its work with a human antibody that may prevent scarring of the eye after surgery for retinal detachment and operative treatment of glaucoma.

It should not be only the Health Secretary who looks benignly at the pharmaceu-tical industry. The Chancellor of the Exchequer should also have been there smiling, even beaming. The pharmaceutical industry is second only to North Sea oil as an export earner for the UK. It pours £6 million a day into medical research. In the past 40 years newly introduced medicines have doubled the number of patients who can be treated in their own homes for 12 major diseases. This, as well as being advantageous for patients, saves the Exchequer £10 billion a year. Five of the world's current 20 leading modern medicines

were discovered in the UK. The winner of this year's Prix Galien award was Singulair, the first of a new class of drug, leukotriene receptor antagonists (LRTAs) for the treatment of asthma. When Singulair was introduced by Merck Sharp & Dohme in February 1998, there had been no comparable innovation in

The Sunday Times Magazine

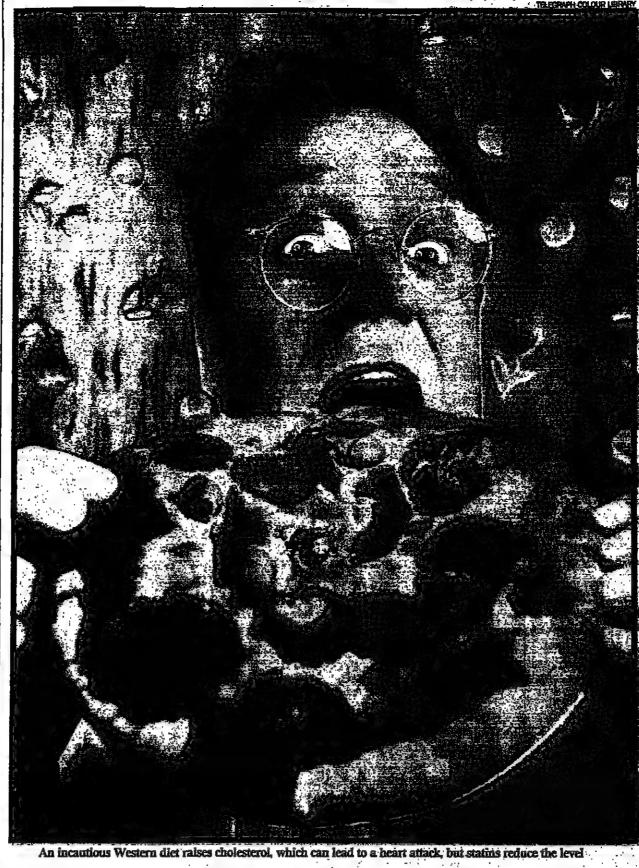
on a painter greater than Monet

the treatment of asthma for 25 years. Singulair is an add-on preparation, useful in the control of mild to moderate asthma, which is inadequately kept at bay by either inhaled corticosteroids or short acting Bz-agonists such as Bricanyl or Serevent. It is combined with existing prophylactic anti-asthma medication and must not be used as a substitute. Singulair has no value in the treatment of an emergency attack. Its value lies in prevention, particu-larly of exercise-induced asthma. It is available in tablet form for adults, and in chewable tablets for children over six. The dose needs to be taken only once a day.

For ten years doctors have worked on antagonists to counteract cysteinyl leukotrienes, formidable causes of inflammation in asthma. The leukotrienes are responsible for increased mucous production, they make mucous more sticky and therefore less mobile, and increase the swelling in the bronchial tubes which become narrowed during an attack of asthma. Further narrowing in the bronchial tubes is then induced by the inflammation, which causes contraction of their muscles and hence constriction, resulting

in wheezing and gasping.
Asthma affects 3.4 million people in the
UK every year. A statement last autumn
from the National Asthma Campaign said that there are far too many emergency admissions to hospital with asthma attacks. The problem is not that the patient's condition did not warrant immediate admission but that with better prophylactic treatment many could have been prevented - in an appreciable proportion of these patients Singulair may now be part of that care.

Dr Martin Partridge, the chief medical adviser to the National Asthma Campaign, says: "The opportunity offered by



Partial to pizza? Stock up on statins

FRANK DOBSON probably welcomed an evening at the Prix Galien awards, away from the amieties over the cost of Viagra.
Little did he realise, perhaps, that in
the heavy cost of the prescription of statins, a group of cholesterol-lowering drugs, there is another unexploded financial bomb that cannot be defused by talk of lifestyle drugs. One of the statins. Lipitor (atorvastatin), by Parke Davis, also won a Prix

Galien award. It was always a riddle why the effect of statins was so much more dramatic than that of other cholesterol-lowering drugs, even though the final cholesterol levels were not so very different. New research, not yet widely published, has shown that statins also alter the nature of the dangerous atheromatous plaques that fur up the arteries and which, by rupturing, cause heart attacks or strokes. The statins make plaques harder and more adherent.

A cardiologist remarked recently

that if he had any doubts about his own arteries, he would disregard existing recommendations for the prescription of statins and, whatever his cholesterol level, start taking them straight away. Once this initial research is confirmed, any patient with a likelihood of heart disease will expect to be prescribed statins. My own evening statin is now as much a part of my hallime routine as cleaning

People with a raised low-density cholesterol; too much triglyceride (another blood fat), signs of cardiovascular disease or a family history of heart disease should offer up daily prayers of thanks for the discovery of the statin group of drugs. These block the synthesis of cholesterol in the liver and facilitate the removal of cholesterol-rich lipoproteins from the blood. Stating have shown an ability to

reduce the number of further heart attacks after the first. They also make a heart attack less likely in those people with relevant risk

Lipitor is similar to other statins but has a greater ability to lower permicious low density lipoprotein and triglyceride levels — without

# Alternative to eye surgery

added that, with better communication, and clear spoken advice backed up by EVERYONE who has had written instructions on agreed selftheir eyes tested by an optomemanagement, many more people with trist will have experienced a asthma would be able to take control of pull of air directed at the eyeball. This measures the pres-sure of the fluid within the eye their condition and stay out of hospital. and is a screening device to detect glaucoma. This pressure may be measured more accurately by applying the pres-sure-sensitive tip of a tonometer to the eye. Too high an intra-ocular pressure - the result of some obstruction to the free circulation of fluid between the posterior and anterior chambers of the eyeball -

hospital admission, or emergency department attendance, to give people with asth-

ma the information they need to control

their own condition is often missed." He

THE SUNDAY TIMES

damages the optic nerve. Medical, rather than surgical, treatment of glaucoma is dependent on the lowering of pressure within the eye. Betablocker eye drops are usually prescribed first, but there are other means of improving the circulation of the fluid, or of decreasing fluid production. David Broadway, a specialist in the treatment of glaucoma at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, says: "Our goal is to set an appropriate target pres-sure for any particular individual. Low target pressures are needed in severe or rapidly

MANY of the audience in the

Stationer's Hall when the Prix Galien awards were distribut-

ed must have thought of King

Hussein of Jordan when Mabthera (rituximab), pro-

duced by Roche, was an-

nounced as one of three run-

ners-up to Singulair, which

breakthrough in the treatment of relapsing, low-grade non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, from

which King Hussein is suffer-

ing. It was developed as a

response to the failure, in

many cases, of traditional treat-

ment with radiation and chem-

otherapy.
King Hussein is not alone in

his troubles. In the UK, 12 peo-

ple in 100,000 are diagnosed

with non-Hodgkin's every

strikes the lymphatic system,

ranks seventh in the lethal

league of cancers in the UK -

The cancer, which

represents a

received the top award.

Mabthera

Xalatan (latanoprost), an innovarive eye drop introduced by for surgery." Xalatan is al-Pharmacia & Upjohn to treat ready the second most com-glaucoma. It is the first topical monly prescribed eye drop for prostagiandin to ease intraocular pressure by increasing fluid loss through the sclera (covering) of the eyeball. The drops need to be applied only once a day. "New therapies are available which seem to be more potent and with few-

Galien award was given to drops," says Mr Broadway. "They have reduced the need monly prescribed eye drop for

Glaucoma is the name given to a group of diseases of the eye that cause progressive damage to the optic nerve so that the patient's field of vision is reduced. If it is left untreated, tunnel vision - In



Too much pressure in the eyeball can indicate glaucoma-

progressive disease." A Prix er side-effects than existing which the sufferer can see know the intra-ocular pressure but must assess the condition of the patient's optic nerve and text the visual field so that any minor loss may be spotted at an early stage.

Just to make diagnosis more confusing, glaucoma may occur with a normal intra-ocular pressure, as the optic nerve's susceptibility to pressure varies enormously. One sixth of patients with evidence of optic nerve damage. from glaucoma have a "normal" pressure. Conversely, some people have a high pressure but an undamaged optic

nerve and intact visual fields. Early detection depends on regular ophthalmic testing. People with close relatives who have had glaucoma should be examined annually over the age of 30; others should be tested for it at least every two years from 40. If glaucoma is neglected in its early stages, its progress be-comes more difficult to halt.



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#### New drug fights cancer without side-effects

ing but no one knows why. Licensed only last June, Mabthera is the first monoclonal antibody prescribable for the treatment of any kind of cancer. It works in a different way to conventional chemotherapy by targeting specific vates the body's immune system to attack them and causes the malignant cells to self-

This targeted action enables an effective dose to be given, but at the same time avoids the more widespread adverse effects which are experienced when the toxicity is not confined to the malignant cells but affects the healthy ones,

too.

The usual side-effects of bair loss. chemotherapy - hair loss,

weight loss - are therefore avoided. However, nothing is trouble-free: sometimes the

patient suffers a fever, chills

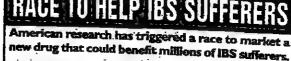
and rigors after their first dose. With Mabthera, periods of re mission in the disease are long er, and life during these periods of remission is of much better quality than when conventional drugs are used. In early research, 87 per cent of patients treated responded, but it is too early to say how

long this remission will last.

RACE TO HELP IBS SUFFERERS

HE DAGES ON

محذا من ريدمل



n the IBS Bulletin 22, published next week

esearchers from Central Middlesex lospital's IBS Research Programme explain the breakthrough, how it works and its



# Day of disaster I will never forget

claim to remember, in amazing detail. events that took place when they were toddlers. How could a fiveyear-old really remember that, I think scornfully?

Partial to

For L who can instantly answer any old trivia you care to quiz me on, have almost no memories of my early years until some months after my eighth birthday.

As far as I can make out, my life began on May 31, 1970, even though my birth certifi cate states September 18, 1961. It was a Sunday, a sunny day of the sort when people laze around simply watching time-go by. All traffic mysteriously disappears, the phone doesn't ring; even children sense that they will get no change from their parents if they disrupt this tranquillity.

I am thousands of miles from London, in a northern town in Peru. I am joined by my three brothers in the small study of our home, working through homework my father has set us, knowing there are belier ways in spend a day such as this one. There must be friends to play with foot-balls to be kicked, ice-cream to be licked. It is almost 3pm. If I hurry there may still be time before supper. The house is eerily quiet my baby sister, bom two weeks ago, is asleep in her cot, my mother resting beside her. In the kitchen the radio is silent, our housemaid enjoying a rare day of rest.

You see, all this I remember. The sounds, the colours, even the smells. I also recall the distent sound, like thunderclouds rolling in from the sea I remember how quickly it seemed to move closer and closer, until it was above us, and all around us. How glass panels in windows began to vibrate How books begun numbling from shelves and lights swung from ceilings. How we four brothers looked: at each other in fear.

My father came rushing through the house, followed by my mother. I remember him shouting for us to run outside, and I recall my mother's terrified stare. We followed, joining neighbours as they spilled into the street. As my feet touched the potholed road it was already shaking so violently it was difficult to As Colombia attempts to grapple with devastation, Martin Barrow recalls the earthquake that overwhelmed Peru in 1970 when he was eight, and the terrible impact it had on him and his family



Officially, the earthquake left 66,000 Peruvians dead and 80,000 homeless. The country was ill-equipped to cope with disaster and tens of thousands were out of reach of the rescue services

remember seeing walls crumble, bricks and plaster crashing to the ground. Streetlights buckled and electricity cables sparked and splintered. Neighbouring houses seemed to come to life, dancing and swinging madly. The noise was deafening. I leant against a wall and was bounced off as it swung against me. It was remain standing. As I crossed my mother who remembered joined us, with baby in arms. no gaping cracks in the road. We lived less than 100 miles prepared to deal with a natu-the road, the earthquake the baby; in our desperation to it was all over. I remember Despite collapsed walls and from the epicentre. Just two ral disaster on such a scale. my father drawing from his appeared to intensify. I fell I leave the house, we had left be choking on the thick clouds of broken windows, our prosper- hours drive from our home in Survivors used their bare experience as a child in Lon-

hind my new sister. Mum screamed; my dad ran back into the building, somehow making his way through the house which was obstructed by our belongings: ornaments, pictures, books, bottles, the television set. Katherine, bless her, slept peacefully through the whole thing.

Soon after my father re-

dust rising from the road and, briefly, the silence, quickly interrupted by the wailing of the many women and children myself included, who looked around in disbelief, unable yet to understand the enormity of what had taken place.

There were no deaths in our street nor in the immediate neighbourhood. There were ous housing estate emerged almost unscathed. We were the lucky ones. Officially, the earthquake

was responsible for the deaths 66,000 and left another 80,000 without homes. But who knows how many of Peru's poorest inhabitants. living beyond the reach of gov-emment statistics, really died.

Trujillo, more than 5,000 people died in one town alone. Residents of Yungay, at the foot of the Andes, were buried under a mass of ice and mud that crashed from the mountains.

Roads and bridges were destroyed, leaving tens of thousands of Peruvians out of the reach of rescue services. An impoverished nation was illhands in vain attempts to drag loved ones from the rubble. Weeks passed before contact could be made with isolated areas in the mountains.

During the next few days, smaller quakes followed as the earth settled. There was no electricity and no running water. At night my family gathered downstairs to sleep huddon during the Blitz. By day, I joined friends playing in the rubble of demolished buildings. It never occurred to me then how my parents provided food for their family; they just did. I remember the evenings when we are by candlelight. with a battery-powered radio giving the names of people known to have died and helpin touch with relatives.

The Peruvian football team was set to make its debut in the World Cup in Mexico and every few minutes the radio played the team's signature tune, hoping to inspire Peruvi-ans to find the strength 10 emerge from the disaster.

Now, as an adult with two young children of my own. I understand that what appeared to be hardship for us, represented extraordinary luxury for the thousands who spent the following months living in camps, with no roof over their heads and with little

> In our desperation to leave, we had left behind my new sister

to eat. Only now can I understand the anxiety of my mother, still debilitated by childbirth. in seeking to protect her five children.

We were flown out of Trujillo one month later, when the airport was deemed safe, to return to England. For the next few months we were taken to relatives while my father stayed in Peru, helping his company to rebuild its factory and restore production.

Ten months after the earthquake my mother died. Doctors will attest she died of cancer and I have no scientific reason to disagree. I saw her waste away before my own eyes and I saw the drugs on her bedside table so I cannot deny her illness. But I believe her spirit was broken on May 31, 1970, and that she could never have recovered.

But, as I have already said, i am not sure that I can trust the recollections of my own child-

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# Home alone with Will

that day, sitting in Pizza Express as we waited for the locksmith.

Until my one-year-old son William and I got home from a weekend away to find I'd lost the door keys, I thought I had life as a single parent sussed. I thought that by a pure act of will I had turned myself into a strong, competent modern mother, coping bravely while my husband worked abroad for a few months,
I had hoped, as all parents

do — including the teenage girls whom lack Straw thinks should give up their babies that, if I had to, I could look after my child alone. But as I distractedly passed William bits of tomatoey dough for him to throw on the floor, I was forced; to admit that this was much harder than I had dreamt.

You may think that being locked out has little to do with being a single parent But when it happens to you and a tired, hungry child, and there is nowhere to turn, the effect is shattering. There is no one to

0.50% per annum.

Lucy Hawking imagined she could cope easily as a single parent until her husband worked abroad

rush home with spare keys, no one to help to change the baby in the hall while the locksmith drills the door to pieces, or to give him supper once we finally fall into the flat. And that was only our first week.

During my husband's ab-sence I have experienced the practical, although not the financial, demands that singleparenthood brings. I am 28 and have a university education; I also have the good fortune neither to want nor to need to work full-time. I have a supportive family and friends who patch in at a sec-ond's notice. Yet despite all this, I have found every resource stretched to breaking point by the rigours of dealing with a small boy who has the energy of an Olympic athlete and the curiosity of 1,000 cats. I am in awe of those who cope



Lucy Hawking and William

all day, every day, alone, with never a minute to themselves. It would be nice to think that as time went by I was getting better at it: effortlessly produ-cing organic meals, working part-time, keeping the flat spotless and keeping up to date-with current affairs while everyone said how marvellous I was. That didn't happen.

Each time I began to think that I knew how to cope with our lives, something would throw me entirely off balance again. After the key drama we both got fu. William is a feisty chap who weighs something near a ton, or so it felt as I hugged him off to the doctor's, where he was given antibiotics and I wasn't. At night, hearing him cough horribly tore me in two - or rather, into one part that selfishly wanted to stay in bed and be as ill as I felt, and another that demanded I get up and deal with him. I tried to kid myself that it was only a little while since he'd been tiny enough for me to get up several times in the night every night and I should just try to reverse back to that era. The big problem with that idea was that I had so often used the old It's your turn to go" line on a long-suffering husband that generally I never had any turns at all.

I tried having William in bed-with me, but after he hit me on the head with his bottle and tried to stand up on my chest while I slept, I was soon fed up. And having been up all night, the next day was a writeoff. I walked as though I was moving through thick treacle, feeling bleary and hopeless.

Illness probably scares sin-gle parents more than any-thing else. It is frightening and exhausting for both parent and child. Nurseries won't take sick children, which means that working parents have to take time off; this hardly endears them to employers in to-day's cold economic climate.

And children can't be relied on to fall ill during normal surgery hours. The recent wave of diarrhoea that engulfed South London's parents and babies meant we had to visit a clinic on a Saturday because our usual doctor was not on call. Arriv-ing there with a baby whose nappy needed changing every few minutes, we were confronted with a steep flight of steps and no ramp. I asked the porter how to get in she said "Can't you carry him?" I looked down the stairs at my sweet and very heavy baby in his pushchair and despaired.

ften I wonder how we get to the end of the day. And when the squeaks and murmurs from the baby's room turn to blissful silence, the flat becomes silent, too, except for the televi-sion. The evenings are very quiet - just me, a sandwich and some show I would never watch in other circumstances. But come the end of the day, I am too tired to do anything self-improving or useful, too tired to make myself something proper to eat. Anyway, the idea of settling down to a nice meal for one is anathema.

will think me a whinger. Don't I know that having children is one of the greatest joys one can possibly have? And it is extraordinary and amazing. But the world is not kind to parents or families. Financially, socially, sanity, parents cannot be blamed for feeling that the odds are stacked against them. And that's when there are two

The work doesn't double when there is just one - it triples or quadruples. Jack Straw has caused a storm by making a politically incorrect, sadden ing yet devastatingly accurate point. It is obviously not impossible to be a single parent, but it is very, very tough.

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# Put out the birthday **Bunting**

Peter Stothard on the secret

life of Our Man in Tehran

few weeks ago the archivist of The Times sent around the office his annual list of our domestic anniversaries, the fortieth year of a football commentator, the seventy-fifth year of Letters to the Editor, the centenary of a once celebrated drama critic. Fifty years ago this week, the note revealed, was the first day on which the poet Basil Bunting began work as our correspondent in Tehran.

Bunting of The Times? It did not sound very likely. His name does not appear in the official history and ours is a paper which, from Thackeray to Graham Greene, has much prized its literary sons. Bunting was no mean poet. His most famous piece, Briggflatts, was "the finest long poem to have been produced in England since Four Quartets", according to Cyril Con-nolly. Surely, if he had been one of our staff, he should also have been one of our heroes.

He was perhaps the master of too many arts. As a classical student, I remember being encouraged to read his translations ("overdrafts" he called them) from Horace and Lucretius. He was a genius at adapting Latin sense to Eng-

lish rhythms. He was also of refreshingly independent mind. His version of one of Catulius's ended, after only 22 bad-tempered lines, with the assertion "and why Catullus bothered to write pages and pages of this drivel mystifies me™.

But there was also his critical campaigning for the music of ting, this is a joke against Monteverdi, his scholastic Colonel John Astor, the proprilove affair with the Lindisfarne gospel illustrations, his writings on Japan and old Persia, and The Spoils, a justly celebrated war poem which wanders from the desert to the dockyards of Rosyth by many strange and magnificent

His archive file is slim. His first salary was £350 a year. He had ended the war as a British vice-consul in Isfahan and wrote with an easy subversive authority about the threat from Mohammad Mosaddeq who in 1952 threw him out of the country. Like all corre-spondents of those days, the reports which he sent back to senior editors were better than the articles those editors chose to publish. There is a fine dry sketch of the Persian Queen Mother who "has always had an itch to interfere in politics". But it would be hard to detect

a literary genius at work. The most graphic cable concerns his departure. "Bunting arrived Baghdad postexpulsion expersia accompanied wife enwo yearold daughter. Made difficult journey parcar viaheaviest rainstorm. . . wife grilled, repeat grilled parpolice attempt force her upgive british nationality but she refused despite threat treat infant daughter as persian national prevent child leaving

country cumparent".
This sad story did not. however, have the impact that its author intended. The news editor of The Times had a crisp way with words himself: "we sympathise and regret no other vacancy abroad stop" came the reply from Printing House Square three days later. The expenses department, after a certain amount of carefully minuted discussion, did allow him to keep his office Ford Mercury. And that was the Times career of B.

An elegant leading article was penned to protest at the expulsion of our man. But, as the poet wrote in a letter to the Editor after a similar leader on journalists and dictators in 1955: "Sir, you expressed as much indignation three and a correspondent was expelled from Tehran, but showed the depths of your concern for the freedom of the press by leaving him to starve."

On his return to Northum-

bria Bunting did, indeed, have a child Persian bride to support and no means of maintaining his correspondent's pasha style of life. Whether because of hunger, anger or because he was forced to earn his living thereafter as a sub-editor on The Newcastle Daily Journal, he maintained no great love of journalism or The Times. In the third part of Briggflatts he paints a picture of pathetic scavengers wallowing in warm ordure, eating

each other's trash and pretending to under-stand the world. Although the set-He was ting is among the soldiers of Alexanperhaps der, the target is

clear. One of the para-sites is named Hasthe master of too tor, a man who stares at the stink many around him beneath "dung thick-ened lashes". According to a new biography of Bun-

> etor of The Times. The more likely butt of Bunting's bitter wit is Astor's son Hugh, a fellow foreign correspondent whose paychecks were more secure than the poet's own. According to the archive file. Bunting was still in correspondence with H.Astor in 1953, offering pungent advice on Persian affairs. But by 1965. the successful year of Briggflatts and an almost miraculous rebirth for the Beatles decade, Bunting could repay

old slights with impunity.

hy did Bunting join
The Times? And
why was he forced to leave? He used to claim a wartime career in spying for Britain, saying that with his antique literary Persian he could communicate with Bakhtiari tribesmen and keep them from the Nazi embrace. He had a lifelong passion for underage girls and, once he had done the decent thing by marrying one of them, he may have found even the stuffy Fifties Times more tolerant than the Foreign Office. Per-haps he used his journalism to continue his spying or per-haps, as wartime rules were replaced by rules of peace, The Times thought he did and took appropriate evasive action. This secret life is the subject of Keith Alidritt's biography. It mostly remains a secret even from the wonderful Times archive which records both the writers whom we like to remember and those whom

we have preferred to forget. The Poet as Spy, by Keith Alldritt (Aurum Press, £19.95).



"YOU'VE GOT A CHOICE: THE BULLET, THE HURLING STICK, OR THE DODGY CORNERSHOP SANDWICH...

# Workshop of the world

t may be hard to believe, after all the recent whingeing about the destruction of once-great industrial firms by an insensitive Government and a brutally overvalued currency, but Britain's manufacturing industries could soon become a source of good news. This statement is not just based

on the small, though very signifi-cant, improvement in this week's CBI industrial trends survey, or on yesterday's trade figures. Far more important than these short-term economic performance indicators has been the recent spate of corporate deals involving key British firms such as British Aerospace, BP-Amoco, General Electric Company, Vodafone, ZenecaAstra and LucasVarity. The significance of this activity for Britain's economic fu-ture—and for Britain's role in the world - could exceed such endlessly debated issues as the strength of sterling or the consequences of staying outside European economic and monetary union.

The merger between BAe and GEC-Marconi has attracted a good deal of public attention. But this has focused largely on the political implications, especially for Britain's relationship with Europe. It is said, for example, that Tony Blair is furious about the way that both the British firms have double-crossed their continental partners. When the merger was announced, BAe was deep in merger talks with Germany's leading defence contractor, DaimlerChrysler Aerospace (Dasa), while GEC was offering to sell Marconi to the French Government's defence electronics company, Thomson. By jilting their suitors. BAe and Marconi may have set back the cause of European industrial restructuring and even the political ambition to create a common European defence policy for years or even decades. That was the view last week from Manfred Bischoff, Dasa's chief executive, repeated by

the French Government. But instead of attacking perfidious Albion, the French and German authorities might have done better to consider why their deals fell apart. The French Government demanded that Thomson should hold 50 per cent of the shares in a joint venture with Marconi. even though Marconi would bring far more business and profits to the business than Thomson. The Paris Government also wanted the senior management of the joint venture to be entirely French.

British investors know our manufacturing industries could be global leaders again

Dasa was apparently more mod-est, conceding that it would account for only 40 per cent of a joint operation with BAe, but it insisted that Germany's 40 per cent share would be held as a single block, by Daimler, while Britain's 60 per cent would be dispersed among institutional investors. The result would be an effective BAe takeover by Daimler without BAe's shareholders even receiving a premium for ceding

control So the Germans and French, far from engaging in a genuine effort to

promote Europeanwide restructuring. were trying to pro-tect their flagging national champions by seizing control of two highly companies through political pressure. instead of commercial and financial compenition.

What has been really heartening about the recent spate of big industrial restructurings announced in the City is that so many companies seem fi-

nally to have acquired enough self-confidence to call the bluff of foreign bidders such as Dasa and Thomson. Instead of seeing themselves as passive victims of international competition, they have found the courage to try to initiate and even to dominate the global restruc-turing of their industries. They have been willing to take financial risks to keep managerial control of their businesses. And, perhaps most surprisingly, they have found some encouragement among their institu-tional shareholders. BAe has suffered a modest share price fall since rejecting the Dasa offer, but few City institutions or commentators

argue that the decision was wrong. On the contrary, Britain's investors, as well as some of the better industrial managers, seem to be developing a taste for bolder international strategies. In the recordbreaking takeovers of AirTouch and Amoco, for example, British share-holders enthusiastically supported the decisions of Vodafone and BP managers to issue vast numbers of new shares. A few years ago, such share issues might well have provoked accusations from share-holders that their interests were being diluted and that managers were engaged in pointless empirebuilding to the detriment of shareholder value. Even in the big takeover battle now preoccupying. the City — the battle for Lucas Varity

- British shareholders seem willing to sell to American firms, but only on terms that are likely to leave them with majority control of the com-

> Of course, some of the recent City bids and deals may turn out to be unjuseral will disappoint investors and some may produce industrial disasters. And in the long run it may be almost im-possible for British companies to remain globally competitive in high-tech industries without

more of the govern-

ment support for research and development enjoyed by their rivals in Germany, France, Japan and the United States. But the newfound willingness of the City to back British industrial companies does not just stem from bull market euphoria or misplaced national pride. It is based on a serious assessment of economic realities — Britain is now a far more successful manufacturing country, especially in high-tech industries, than is

generally recognised. How many readers know, for example, that Vodafone's takeover of Air ouch will make Britain the home of the biggest telecommunica-tions company outside the United States, with a market value exceeding that of Deutsche Telecom and France Telecom combined? Or that BAe's purchase of GEC-Marconi will create the world's third largest aerospace and defence company and the only such business of global significance outside America? Or that BPs takeover of Amoco will

make Britain the main base for two of the world's top three energy companies? Or that, after the merger of Zeneca with Sweden's Astra, three of the world's top six pharmaceutical companies are based in Britain and have chosen to use the dollar, rather than the cure. as their unit of account?

Britain is still the home of more large industrial companies than any other European country (including Germany). Britain still exports a higher proportion of its gross domestic product than any other G7 country. And, most importantly, British firms are strongly represented in the industries of the future. As shown in the Government's recent Competitiveness White Paper, Britain has recently enjoyed unusually strong growth in high-technology exports. The share of high-tech exports in total exports has been higher in Britain than in France in four of the past five years and has consistently been much higher than in Germany or Italy throughout the past decade. Britain's overseas earoings from royalties and licence fees have been much higher than those of any other European country.

uch statistics conflict with the widespread impression that Britain is stiding Inchustrial league, towards a position where it will be able to compete only with relatively backward Asian countries on the basis of harsh working conditions and theap labour. This unjustified loom has long been promoted in antinental Europe by politicians anxious to resist pressures for what they see as British-style deregulation and in Britain by politicians anxious to promote what they see as European-

style industrial interventionism. But finally some British managers, with the backing of their institutional shareholders, seem to recognise the strength of their companies and they are trying to capitalise on this strength to secure positions of global leadership in industries of the future. The success or failure of these companies in making the quantum leap from operating on a national or European scale to running truly global businesses will have far more impact on Britain's industrial future than the troubles at Rover in Longbridge or another survey of hand-wringing from the CBL.

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# Don't call us

IT IS my sad duty to inform Sir Jocelyn Stevens that he is finished. The chairman of English Heritage has so offended John Prescott that he is not to be granted another term when the post comes up for renewal next year. The deputy PM thinks Stevens tried to force his hand by saving that an ambitious modernist saying that an ambitious modernist ashtray near Tower Bridge designed by Sir Norman Foster was the only possible HQ for London's mayor. Awkwardly, Will Alsop then withdrew the only alternative.

Gordon Brown resented being bounced into a decision, so Lord St John of Fawsley, head of the Royal Fine Art Commission, persuaded Alsop to revive his scheme. Ministers are unimpressed, however, by Steven's unsubtle insistence that Chris Smith is the "best Culture

• I DROPPED by Brompton Ora-tory and knocked into Jennifer Paterson, jammed into a booth selling knick-knacks. One slab of the Fat Ladies, the TV cook looked cosy squeezed between rosaries, candles and recipes on how to achieve an after life.

#### French leave

THE delightful dowager Lady Rothermere Is to move to New York to take advantage of ber green card, I am distressed to learn. Maiko, pictured with her late husband who



she met in a winebar, was left a substantial wodge from the peer's personal fortune in Paris.

Sadiy, France has diverted a large slice under its forced inheritance rules whereby two thirds go to the children — even though they have been well looked after in Britain. I am sure his family, compassionate sorts, will step in.

 PETER LILLEY, showing that he is a veteran of the gong ceremony drauit, on the Whitbread Book Awards: "A combination of lit. crit. and the Eurovision Song Contest."

#### Dosh for dirt

PECULIAR that eliciting a few tawdry marriage secrets can make a career. Take Martin Bashir, who interviewed the late Diana. Princess of Wales. I gather that the new Sixty Minutes dirt-digger is to be paid £500,000 over two years, a quarter of the reporting budget.

This has caused a frisson between two brothers in charge of ITV's current affairs programme to be presented by Trevor McDonald. Steve Anderson, head of News and Current Affairs, and Jeff, editor of the new programme, are getting on swimmingly after Steve went over his brother's head to hire Bashir.



● A CHALLENGE to William Hague? Lord Feldman has thrown a dinner for Iain Duncan Smith, the thinking man's Lord Tebbit. As well as providing a passable table, the former chairman of the National Union suggests an insurance policy against something "quite dreadful" happening to William.

#### One of us?

"MR BLAIR was glad to read your kind words about Harry Greenway, MP, whom I understand has made a very good impression on you," reads a lener from Downing Street. "It is heartening to hear good reports about Labour MPs who work so hard for their constituents." True, except Green-way was a Tory MP.

IT WAS hardly bottoms up for James Bond, aka Pierce Brosnan, 47. during a recent film shoot. A pert "bum double", 16 years his junior, was hired.

JASPER GERARD

#### 'The public seem to expect their politicians to disinfect the nation's kitchen surfaces'

he war against campylobacter, salmonella and new variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease is being fought with the most powerful weapon this Government can think of a new quango. Yesterday saw the emergence of a hit squad to tackle the scourge of failing sandwiches, the Food Standards Agency. Yet there is an even greater peril to public safety than dodgy prawns. It is, of course, our baths.

Thirty-five people, aged be-tween 15 and 64, died in 1996 from drowning in their tubs. Thirty-four died from food poisoning. If the Government is so worried about people's health and safety, surely Frank Dobson should consider a new BSE — a Bath Standards Executive? The bath chain, like the food chain, needs regulation. A £100 million budget, a levy on all bath and shower manufacturers and retailers, a few hundred scientists, and Frank might be able to save thirty-five people. Who could possibly accuse him of pouring money down the plughole?

There is no appetite for a new BSE because the bath scare has yet to happen. The public think the risk from dying after eating a hamburger is greater than from taking to their tub. But imagine if a sudden spate of watery deaths caught the headlines. The clamour would arise that something should be done. And so the

BSE would be born. millennium, there remains a mistaken belief that science can and should be used to eliminate risk. Politicians and voters share the blame. People refuse to accept that freezers and microwaves, cook-chill meals and fast-food joints are not just the symbols of an affluent society, but ideal homes for germs. They

George Bridges

of the University of Northum-

At the end of the second will be the apotheosis of this nannying mentality, strangling

believe that technology can ban-

ish all micro-organisms. When that fails, they expect politicians to disinfect the nation's kitchen According to Dr Barrie Craven

bria, and Christine E. Johnson, the aim of politicians "should be not to eliminate the poisoning but to establish an environment that results in an acceptable level of food poisoning". Indeed. But try finding a Health Minister brave enough to go on the news and say that twenty deaths from food poisoning is an "acceptable" balance of risk. How much safer to spurt out the most recent expert advice, form a quango and draw up new regulations.

The Food Standards Agency

the whole food industry with the State's apron strings. If the threat of food poisoning dimin-ishes, this will be used to justify regulation. But if there are new scares, they will not be seen as evidence of the futility of spending millions trying to eliminate risk. They will be used to justify even more spending and more saleguards. Food safety regulations should be like a good steak:

The theory underpinning this whole enterprise is wearily familiar: scientists, experts and officials know more than consumers. and politicians must act on their advice. But the reality is far messier. Imagine you were the scientist who discovered that anyone who eats beef on the bone might contract CID. You have two options. Reasoning that the

lean and simple.

risk of death by eating beef on the bone is one in a billion. compared to the one in ten million chance of being hit by lightning, you could file it under "fascinating but not really alarm-ing". But in so doing, you stand accused of a cover-up. You can, of course, shift responsibility on to your political master. He will have to decide whether to keep things in proportion, but risk losing his job for covering matters up. Or he could spark a health scare.

I he crude mixing of politics and science has proved toxic. The BSE crisis, like so many other scares, suffered from the uncertainty of the and not to eat swine. If they science. The public hysteria ran didn't obey the Almighty, they almost its entire course without would suffer from more than just almost its entire course without any scientific proof that there was anything to be alarmed about. Yet it spawned the new-.

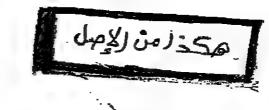
experts are to be placed to terrify us all. Politicians don't dare to trust people. Nor do they have the courage to admit that, no matter how much molly-coddling their quangos inflict on us. living is a risky business.

Perhaps we should spend all

day lying in bed or in a chair. But even that is more dangerous than eating an egg. In one year, 83 people died falling out of their divan or off their seats. Had ministers been braver.

they would have taken a leaf out of the Book of Leviticus. Moses, the first food standards officer, had the right approach: tell people that God orders them to wash their hands before meals, a jippy tummy. But the choice was theirs.

agency, a pedestal on which the george bridges@the-times.co.uk





#### KILLING RAGE

A murder mocks hopes of peace in Ireland

Yesterday the House of Commons debated. in suitably grave terms; the descent into gangsterism of part of the United Kingdom. Although Sinn Fein has two elected members of the House, they have not taken their seats, and could take no part in the debate. But their constituency still made its views clear in the most chilling terms. On the morning of the debate a corpse was found by a Newry roadside, the mutilated body of the IRA informer Eamon Collins. He had dared to expose his former comrades in all their thuggishness. His killing is regrettable, terrible, evidence, as if it were needed, of his warning. Militant republicanism is in no mood to heed the appeals to basic morality made in the Commons yesterday. Its answer to debate has proved to be the gun.

Earnon Collins is only the latest, most horrific, casualty of Ulster's continuing violence. It had been hoped, not least by this newspaper, that the Good Friday agreement signalled terror's eclipse. But the hopes which attended that agreement, and which we nurture still; are imperilled by the Government's apparent acquiescence in the face of persistent violence.

In the Commons yesterday the Prime Minister calmly, and regretfully, pointed out that violent intimidation had occurred. during a previous IRA ceasefire and the: last Government had been prepared. nevertheless, to treat the ceasefire as intact in the interests of advancing the peace process. There may have been room to criticise the last Government for too great a forbearance towards terrorism, but it was at least possible to argue that leniency was justified on the road to agreement. Blind a moratorium on prisoner releases, are at eyes might be turned for the sake of "luring : hand. Unless ministers act, there will be the men of violence towards peace".

The state of the s

marije Halipa

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But now there is a settlement. And still no peace. There are embryo cross-border grief.

bodies, a shadow assembly and potential places for Sum Fein on a new executive. Why is there, then, still tolerance of terror? If, after yielding so much, the Government still does not respond with vigour to violence then the paramilitaries will conclude there is nothing to be lost, and much perhaps to be gained, by continuing their campaign of intimidation.

Republican terrorists not only scent weakness; they perceive advances, however matters develop. As William Hague pointed out yesterday, if matters go on as, they are more convicted terrorists will walk free while more innocent citizens will never walk again. And, all the while, the paramilitaries' stockpiles of arms remain at the ready. Mr Blair may believe that the only way to keep the agreement alive is to decline to push the IRA too far. But if the IRA is not compelled to decommission its weapons, then democrats will have been pushed beyond endurance...

David Trimble, Ulster's First-Ministerdesignate, cannot be expected to join an executive whose members include the sponsors of terror. The IRA knows that Mr Frimble's refusal would trigger the collapse of the agreement, but that is a result they do not fear. They calculate Unionism will be held responsible, and any alternative to the failed agreement will be a form of joint Dublin and London rule in Ulster. which will underline their perception of the Province's ungovernability, and advance their agenda of destabilising the Union.

The Government has punished paramilitaries before for flagrant breaches of their ceasefires. It must do so again. The means, many more families who will join Eamon Collins's in desperate, and unassuaged,

#### THE ADEN LINK

#### Fighting terrorism abroad means cracking down at home

The arrest of three more Britons in Yemen yesterday on terrorism charges on the day when the trial of five others began in Aden has drawn Britain further into the murky politics of southern Arabia. After the murder of British tourists kidnapped by Islamic militants after Christmas, the Government pressed hard for a full and swift investigation. Within days this revealed an unexpected and embarrassing link back to Britain: five British passportholders were arrested on charges of plotting attacks on British targets in Yemen, and militant Islamic activists at Finsbury Park mosque appeared to be the crucial link between the kidnappers and the arrested Britons.

The Government is torn between diplomatic imperatives: to ensure the capture and sentencing of those responsible for the December killings while protecting the rights of the five men whose implication appears, on preliminary evidence, to be inescapable. This second duty has been given added urgency by the very plausible. reports that the five men have been tortured in custody and by the accusations from their families that less has been done for them than would have been for white-skinned Christian British citizens.

There should be no contradiction between these priorities. The Yemenis are fully within their rights to arrest anyone suspected of plotting sabotage or stirring up trouble in terrorist training camps: indeed, this is what all governments committed to the fight against terrorism would insist they should do. Universal norms of justice demand clear charges; a properly prepared trial and due access by defendants who are foreigners to consular. advice and legal representation. Here the . the scourge at home as well. .

Yemenis appear to be on shakier ground. Charges were slow, defence counsel has been given only two days to produce witnesses and the men insisted in court that they had been tortured. Beatings may be routine for Yemeni defendants in a country dominated by tribal custom; that does not excuse ill-treatment, forced confessions and torture. Britain should insist on an independent medical examination.

Yemen has now demanded the extradition of Abu Hamza al-Masri, the imam of Finsbury Park mosque who has made no secret of his wish to see the overthrow of the government in Sanaa. He has much to answer for, Allegations that he spoke to the kidnappers before the shooting, the involvement of his stepson and the display of cassettes made by his supporters among the equipment said to have been taken from the defendants all point to a role that could be grounds for prosecution.

Extradition may be awkward. There is no treaty with Yemen, and the conditions of custody could persuade an extradition court that he would not receive a fair trial. But the Government has a new option. New anti-terrorist legislation makes conspiracy to commit terrorism overseas a crime in Britain. Significantly, Derek Fatchett, while not naming Mr Hamza, insisted in the Gulf two days ago that the Government would use these new laws to prosecute where necessary. Yemen should submit whatever evidence it has; the police and MIS may have evidence of their own. The events at Finsbury mosque appear repellent and imacceptable. If they are indeed also criminal, those responsible should be prosecuted forthwith. Fighting terrorism abroad means cracking down on

#### READY-WRAPPED POLL TAX

#### The funding of the Food Standards Agency could be its ruin

The Government's Bill creating a new Food Standards Agency had no reason to be controversial. Salmonella outbreaks, BSE and some spectacular cases of E. coli food poisoning have seriously shaken public confidence. BSE, in particular, confirmed the need for an independent body, immune to producer pressures. The decision to take the policing of food safety out of the Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) has universal support. Amazingly, the Government has contrived to convert this simple passport to popularity into a complicated document that will rightly be fiercely contested.

The first flaw in this Bill is that it does not, in fact, take MAFF entirely out of the picture. The FSA's responsibilities risk being too broad, including "healthy eating" rather than food safety alone, and too narrow. Crucially, they do not extend right through the food chain, but only from farmgate to front door. Many food poisoning incidents originate on farms, which will continue to be MAFF territory.

The second is that, far from being visibly separate from the food production industry, the FSA is to be linked to it by the closest possible tie - that of money. Some 554 million a year, just over half its anticipated costs, will be funded through an industry-wide levy. The impost inevitably links the FSA to those it exists to monitor. That is not what the public wants. The most egregious mistake of all is the divisive way in which this unwise form of

indirect tax is to be raised. Every food outlet, from the timiest store in remote villages to the bulkiest hypermarket suburbia can boast, is to pay the same, a flat £90 a year. This is a monstrous injustice; why should small businesses on: tight profit margins pay the same as supermarket chains, which would barely register the sum on their turnover sheets?

The Government's contention that the levy should be the same for all because the risks generated are equal offends common sense. Corner shops for whom food is only marginal to their sales may abandon that part of their business. The policy sits ill with ministers' strictures on unbridled hypermarket development and their ambitions to preserve the fabric of towns; and even less well with job-creation. The recent Competitiveness White Paper underlines the importance of small businesses as engines of growth. Sandwich outlets help relatively unskilled people to enter or return to the labour market. The levy will be a disincentive for such small employers.

It is also a political mistake. As the Tories learnt to their cost, anything that looks to most people like a poll tax will be so massively resented that, even if it is dropped an aura of unfairness will linger. If the FSA is vital to public health, then it is important enough to be funded by taxpayers, not producers. The sooner ministers accept that, the less they risk their basically good product turning rancid before it reaches the counter.

#### ETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### in weapons of war

From Lord Alton of Liverpool

Sir, Nicholas Prest, Chairman of Alvis (letter, January 21), accuses Matthew Parris of nonsense, immorality and pacifism for questioning the Government's arms trade policies.

There is a world of difference hetween manufacturing the means of defence for a democratically elected government and selling arms to totali-tarian governments which violate

In the case of Indonesia alone, the British Government has issued 60 new licences to companies selling arms since the last general election. On coming to office, it renewed 21,000 existing arms export licences. Not only are there obvious issues of transparency here; there is also the small question of the Government's ethical

Mr Prest's own company has sold armoured vehicles and tanks to the Indonesians. The Indonesian Defence Attaché in London, Colonel Halim, has admitted that UK-manufactured military equipment had been used in East Timor, where 200,000 people are estimated to have died at the hands of Indonesian forces.

If Indonesia does not fall foul of the Government's ethical policy and its strictures that arms should not be sold to countries which practise external oppression or internal repression. which countries will?

There are a range of other reasons for at least questioning arms deals such as Eurofighter. The cost of researching, designing and building this plane has been put at £15 billion - about £1 million per job. Alan Clark, MP, a noted military historian. put it well when he said: "We must find less extravagant ways of paying people to make buckets with holes in

Yours faithfully, DAVID ALTON, House of Lords.

#### From Mr Trevor Woolston

Sir, We are all indebted to Matthew Parris for raising the old rallying cry. "Swords into ploughshares": it has become curiously muted in prosperous industrial countries in recent years. Are we all being moulded into

double standards? Ban handguns, but build up our capacity to make mass killing acceptable? Condemn terrorism, but indulge in terrorist bombing of any nation which does not bow to big-power pressure? Matthew Parris is certainly right.

The arms trade is morally wrong and we have yet to learn better ways of building peace. On our present showing, we will certainly be thought mad by any future wise men who, somehow, manage to survive.

Yours sincerely, TREVOR WOOLSTON, East Mill House, Grinton, Richmond, North Yorkshire DLI 6HL January 18.

#### Candour on Viagra

From Professor Richard Green

Sir, When Dr Thomas Stuttaford and I were medical students, shame prevented patients from confessing to a sexual problem and emburrassment prevented patients and family from admitting that they had cancer. A man in life did not talk publicly of his impotence and in death his obituary cuphemistically referred to "a long illness". That is why Dr Stuttaford's account (January 22) of his prostate cancer surgery and its effect on his sexuality, whimsically titled "I might just as well swallow a Smartie as take Viagra", is so refreshingly candid.

With his self-disclosure, Dr Stuttaford condemns the Health Secretary's cynicism in permitting NHS prescriptions for the anti-impotence drug only for patients with a severely disrupted nerve or blood supply, for whom it probably won't work, and who therefore won't return for a refill.

Whatever the merits of this governmental strategy to contain NHS costs, Dr Stuttaford is to be commended for his candour as a model for his patients and the public.

Yours sincerely, RICHARD GREEN (Consultant psychiatrist), Imperial College School of Medicine, Charing Cross Hospital, W6 8RF.

#### Treatment for all?

From Dr Fiona Cornish Sir. Has the time come for the gen-

erosity offered to foreign students and academics for NHS treatment to end? In no other country would you expect free GP and hospital treatment, merely by being registered for a university course. Many students are baffled by this bizarre generosity and ask where to pay. The answer is that they are not allowed to.

Frank Dobson's Viagra debate has finally alerted the public to the ques-tion of rationing, should the British taxpayer fund, for example, renal dialysis or cardiac surgery for students or academic visitors from abroad?

Yours faithfully. FIONA CORNISH, Newnham Walk Surgery, Wordsworth Grove, Cambridge CB3 9HS January 22.

#### Ethics of the trade Snape's fears of 'quiet' air traffic

ters today.

compose.

From Mrs Tricia Maguire

There were, I recollect, constant and

difficult negotiations during the 1970s and 80s between the Aldeburgh

Festival (later Foundation) and the

USAF bases at Bentwaters and

Woodbridge about their flights. Tim-

ings were made to avoid concerts.

Benjamin Britten was forced to move

miles away in order to be able to

of commerce in ten years' time is going to be fulfilled by using "quiet aircraft", timetabling flights to avoid all those many hours during which the Maltings and the Britten-Peers School for Advanced Musical Studies

are in use, or ensuring that flight

paths remain three miles away.

Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 1HN.

Sir, If Mr Borgstedt's regenerated air-

port will only generate ten commer-

cial flights a day in ten years' time, yet

create 2,000 local jobs, is it a viable

Lavenham, Sudbury CO10 9RH.

TRICIA MAGUIRE,

From Mr Adrian Palmer

Manor Farm.

January 26.

proposition?

Yours faithfully,

Prospect House,

Shilling Street.

January 26.

ADRIAN PALMER,

Benhall Green,

I cannot be persuaded that this call

From Canon John Giles

Sir. The northeast end of the Bentwaters runway (which can and will take large commercial jets under the present proposals) is less than three miles from the Snape Maltings Con-cert Hall (letters, January 21 and 26). The runway points a mere 19 degrees away from a direct line over the Maltings. Planes will be taking off or landing as close as that. As far as the timing of flights is concerned so as not to interfere with music and recordings, Aldeburgh Productions has received as yet no acceptable concessions that would allow the two operations to coexist.

I remember a course for clergy held in Windsor, six miles from Heathrow, where lectures were repeatedly interrupted by aircraft noise. With a window open in hot weather, lecturers had to stop speaking for ten seconds or more before they could be heard

Mr Yann Borgstedt, the Project Manager for the proposed revitalised Bentwater Airport, says in his letter today that aircraft noise "will hardly be heard at the Maltings above the background noise of daily life". But the point about the Maltings is that there truly is virtually no background noise of daily life. Outside the hall the birds, insects, the very reeds of the Alde estuary are all that can be heard.

It is a unique home and setting for music. If that is wrecked, the artists drawn here will dwindle. Commercialism will have won one more battle at the expense of quality of life.

Yours faithfully, JOHN GILES, 25 The Terrace, Aldeburgh, IP15 SHJ. January 26.

Dowsing rods

anism" to explain dowsing.

flowing streams of water, power

cables, etc. These variations interfere

with the electric signals along the

neurous between the hands holding

the dowsing rods, which communi-

cate to the brain and back to the

muscles that keep the rods in position.

for such people to hold the rods

steady: the more they try the more

their muscles will twist the rods. This

movement then reveals the presence

Anyone who wishes to test their nat-

ural ability should experiment with

the simple rods used by house

repairers to indicate the presence of

hidden pipes and cables. These were

in general use before the advent of today's less subjective, electronic in-

(Consulting metallurgist). Flat 2, The Old Police Station,

19 Coldharbour, E14 9NS.

of this field variation.

Yours faithfully.

January 20.

IAN CHASTON

This imbalance makes it difficult

#### Wind turbines

From Mr T. D. Short From Mr Ian R. M. Chaston

Sir. I must disagree with Nigel Sir, I disagree with Mr John Campbell, QC (letter, January 19), that wind turbines are "useless". They create Hawkes (Science Briefing, January 20) that there is "no plausible mech thousands of megawatts of electricity Most people are sensitive to variaeach year and save untold tonnes of tions in local electromagnetic fields. carbon dioxide from being pumped such as exist in the presence of into the atmosphere.

Carbon dioxide will always be produced in one form or another by gas or coal-fired power plants - that is inescapable. But we can do something about it now, preventing the need for future treatment. To dismiss wind farms because of

their (arguable) adverse effect on the landscape is short-termism of the worst kind. Wind turbines do work. They produce "clean" and "green" electricity at a price that is commercially viable and at no cost to our futures. Maybe the current proportion is negligible compared to demand: the usual commercial response to such a situation is not to cut off supply entirely, but to provide more.

Yours faithfully. Energy Group. Department of Engineering. University of Reading, Whiteknights, PO Box 225, Reading, Berkshire RG6 6AY. t.d.short@reading.ac.uk January 21.

From Mr Ralph Barnes

early 1960s.

Yours truly,

January 22

RALPH BARNES,

81 Windsor Court.

Mixed foods

From Dr Carl James

Sir. Recent references to Field Mar-

shal Montgomery (letters, January 18

and 22) have reminded me of an

experience when I was teaching in the

I took a party of boys to visit West-minster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament. When we were walking

along Whitehall I spotted Monty leav

ing a saloon car and walking towards

the War Office. I called to my pupils to

We arrived in time at the entrance

and I stood to attention saluted and

stated my rank, name and number.

He looked at each boy and pointing a finger he uttered: "Haircut; haircut;

Chase Side, Southgate, N14 5HT.

Sir. Contrary to the inset accompany-

ing your report on cost-cutting in

Russian chocolate factories by the

increased use of carrots (January 23), the word marmalade does not "derive

from the Portuguese name for pre-

serve made from carrots". The Portu-

A more likely etymology for mar-malade is that it derives from the Port-

uguese marmelo meaning quince

(Pyrus cydonia). itself originating

either in Arabic or in Greek meli-melon (honey apple). Portuguese marmelada is quite simply quince

The only association I can construe

Business letters, page 31

between the word marmelada and

cost-cutting is its use in Brazilian football slang for a fixed or rigged

Yours faithfully.

University of Wales,

Linguistics Department,

Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DG.

CARL JAMES,

January 25.

guese for carrot is cenoura.

run with me towards him.

#### 'Presumed consent' The Monty style

From Dr Colin G. Fink

Sir, I have a great respect for the work of Professor Margaret Esiri (letter, January 20) and I have no worry about a change in the law governing "presumed consent" of organ donors in the hands of her and her fellow signatories. It is the rest of my medical colleagues, who give me cause for

A number of them have expressed an interest in seeing what makes me tick. I fear that the temptation to satisfy their curiosity may exceed their sometimes fragile grip on medical ethics and that they may not wait for as long as I would wish.

Prospective patients may share my concerns.

Yours faithfully. COLIN FINK (Clinical virologist and general practitioner). Micropathology Ltd. Vincent Drive. Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2SQ. January 20.

#### . From Mr Philip Rossdale

Sir, We do not call those from whom property is stolen "donors", but the occasions ranking as theft would be made less frequent by presumed consent to the removal of an individual's property when desperately needed by

Yours faithfully. PHILIP ROSSDALE, 10 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2A 3SU. January 21.

#### Wigs for judges

From His Honour Patrick Halnan Sir. A wig is wonderfully warm in a cold court (letters, January 20).

Yours truly, PATRICK HALNAN, 33 Rotherwick Way. Cambridge CBI SRX. January 20.

\* \* Word Diging

Letters may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

#### their absentees? Sir, I would dispute the bland assur-From Mr Colin Maclean Campbell ances given by Messrs Yann Borgstedt and Lewis Benjamin in their let-

Sir, Your leading article, "Safe to school" (January 23), fails to distin-guish between absent children and missing children. Absentees are not

Can schools police

necessarily missing. The two missing ten-year-olds were only two out of 41 not present at their school that day. The remaining 39 were absent: had their parents phoned to advise the school, it would have been alerted that the two were unaccounted for and immediate ac-

tion could have been taken. A parent can always find a phone. A teacher cannot always find a parent.

Yours faithfully, COLIN MACLEAN CAMPBELL, Regent House, 23 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5BS. colincamphell@compuserve.com January 23.

#### From Mr Colin Clayton

Sir, So now we know The Times's considered opinion as to how a teacher should spend the first hour of the school day: not running an assembly or teaching the children who have answered their names on the register, but telephoning the parents of those who haven't, on the off-chance they may be at home.

In a flu epidemic with any luck this should take till lunchtime. As for the children who attend, no doubt they could play with their computers.

Yours faithfully, COLIN CLAYTON, Davian, Main Road. Higher Foxdale, Isle of Man. claytons@mch.net January 23.

#### From Professor Sir Bryan Thwaites

Sir, Your leading article asks "Are teachers aware of their responsibility for ensuring that their pupils are at school?" And how, pray, do you expect them to exercise this responsibility? By collecting each child one-by-one from its home?

No: parents, and only parents, can ensure that their children are delivered safely to the school gates.

Yours faithfully. BRYAN THWAITES. Milnthorpe, Winchester SO22 4NF. January 23.

#### Millennium Bart

From Eur Ing Michael Pinder

Sir. We are just as disfunctional as Bart Simpson (letter from Mr Morley Halse, January 20), even though we have more digits to count on. We count years in millenniums, centuries and decades, like the ancient Egyptians, but we do not use our ten digits for counting days or dividing the days in the year.

A ten-day week would allow most jobs to be shared and eliminate unemployment. A decimal day would prevent the confusion caused by using 12 or 24-hour clocks. The global age. date and time at the millennium could be shown thus: 000.000.000 and this decimal time system would have zapped all the millennium bugs.

Here's to the next Time. MICHAEL PINDER (President). The Decimal Time Society, 6 Hamble Close, Warsash. Hampshire SO31 9GT. January 20.

#### Orchestra finances

From Mr Terence Earley

Sir, Perhaps one should not be surprised that Raymond Gubbay rushes to the defence of British orchestras (letter, January 25), since as an impresario he creams off their popular, money-making concerts.

This leaves them with their more important music-making which attracts Arts Council subsidy, from which he indirectly benefits since their subsidies keep them in existence.

Yours truly, TERENCE EARLEY, London SW10 9PD. January 25.

#### Golden years

From Mr David Townley

Sir, The onset of middle age has nothing to do with chronological age (letters, January 5, 12, 19, 26). It starts when you look forward to a dull

Yours faithfully. DAVID TOWNLEY. 92 Fir Tree Road. Banstead, Surrey SM7 INQ. January 26.

#### From Mr David Schofield

Sir, On the subject of late 20th-century middle age, perhaps my favourite adage (and certainly the one I quote most often) is "Old enough to know better, young enough not to care."

I remain determined to grow old disgracefully. Yours faithfully.

DAVID SCHOFFELD, Gwysfa, Conwy Old Road, Penmaenmawr. Borough of Conwy LL34 6YF.



#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

January 27: The Prince of Wales was represented by Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Graham, late Gordon Highlanders, at the Puneral of Captain George Watson, late Gordon Highlanders, at Udny Green Church. Aberdeenshire, 10-

day.
His Royal Highness was represented by Colonel Robert firench Blake at a Memorial Service for Mr Albert Abela at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, Mayfair, today.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE January 27: The Princess Royal, President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, this morning attended the "Action on Women's Safety" Conference at Ellis Building, Lancashire Constabulary Headquarters, Hutton, Lancashire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire (The Lord Shuttleworth).

Today's royal

engagements The Princess Royal, as patron Victim Support Scotland, will launch the Victim Support City of Glasgow service at 10 Jocelyn Square, Glasgow, at 11.00; will visit the Glasgow University Media Unit, 61 Southpark Avenue, at 12.45; and will open the Strathchyde University's Institute for Biomedia. University's Institute for Biomedical Sciences, 27 Taylor Street, at 3.00. Later she will attend a dinner given by the City Council at the Banqueting Hall, City Chambers at 7.00, to receive an award for her significant contribution to Glasgow and her encouragement to organisations supporting disad-vantaged individuals.

Macmillan Cancer Relief

Macmillan Cancer Relief announces the appointment of Sir Kenneth Calman, former Chief Medica Officer, to the board. Four other appointments were also made: Dame Gillian Oliver, Mrs Roddy Petley, Miss Sue Kirk and Mr David Paton.

Meeting

Royal Institute of International Affairs The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic was the speaker at a meeting of the Royal Institute of International Affairs held yesterday at Chatham House. Mr Peter Horborne presided.

Greater Manchester.

The Princess Royal, Past President. The Chartered Institute of Transport, this evening attended the North Western Section Annual Dinner at The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Man-

Her Royal Highness, President, The Princess Royal Trust for

Carers, this afternoon attended a

Luncheon at Trafford Town Hall.

Talbot Road, Stretford, Greater

and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Man-

Birthdays today

Mr M.J. Ainsworth, chief executive, Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, 52: Mr Alan Alda, actor, 63; Mr Mikhail Baryshnikov, ballet dancer and parysmitov, panet lancer and actor, 51; Mrs Valerie Bragg. Principal, City Technology Col-lege, Kingshurst, Birmingham, 52; Miss Enid Castle, former Principal, Cheltenham Ladies' College, 63; Sir Oliver Chesterton, chariered surveyor, 86; Mr John Edmonds, trade unionist, 55; Mr M.G. Falcon, former chairman, Norwich Union Insurance Group, 71; Mr Giyu Ford, MEP. 49; Sir Anthony Garner, former director of organisation, Conservative Central Office, 72.

Professor Sir Henry Harris, FRS, former Regius Professor of Medicine, Oxford University, 74; Mr J.D. Hughes, former Principal, Ruskin College, Oxford, 72; Mr Bill Jordan, trade unionist, 63; Sir Timothy Kitson, former MP, 68; the Rev David Morris, MEP. 69: Major-General Martin Sinnatt, former secretary, Kennel Club, 71; Sir Trevor Skeet, former MP. 81: Professor John Tavener, composer, 55; Mr David Thompson, former chairman, Gesterner Holdings, 67; the Rev B.R. White, former Principal, Regent's Park College, Oxford, 65; the Very Rev James Whyle, former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scot-land, 79; Lord Windlesham, 67.

#### **Anniversaries**

BIRTHS: King Henry VII, reigned 1485-1509, Pembroke Castle. 1457; John Baskerville, typographer and printer, Worcester, 1706; Charles George Gordon, general, London, 1833; Sir Henry Stanley, explorer and Journalist, Denbigh, 1841; William Seward Burroughs, pio-neer of adding machines, New York, 1855; Colette, writer, St-Sauveur-en-Pulsaye, 1873; Auguste Piocard, physicist, sea and strato-sphere explorer, Basie, 1884; Artur Rubinstein, pianist, Lodz, Poland, 1887; Jackson Pollock, Expressionist painter, Cody, Wyoming, 1912; Harry Corbeit, puppeteer and entertainer, Bradford, Yorkshire,

DEATHS: Charlemagne, Holy Ro-

man Emperor 800-814, Aachen, Germany, 814; King Henry VIII, reigned 1509-47, Greenwich, 1547; Sir Francis Drake, navigator and pirate. Porto Relio. West Indies 1596; Sir Thomas Bodley, diplomat and founder of the Bodletan

Library in Oxford, London, 1612: William Burke, body-snatcher, exe-cuted in Edinburgh, 1829; William Butler Yeats, poet and dramatist, Nobel laureate 1923, Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, 1939; Billy Fury, singer, London, 1983. Edward VI acceded to the throne,

The American space shuttle Challenger exploded shortly after lift-off from Cape Canaveral, killing five men and two women, 1986.

#### Memorial services

Mr Albert P. Abela

The Prince of Wales was repres ed by Colonel Robert ffrench Blake at a requiem mass in thanksgiving for the life of Mr Albert Abels, yesterday at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Parm Street, London WI, Father Michael O'Halloran and Father Shafiq Abouzayd, Melkite parish priest,

Manchester, with carers and staff from the Trafford Carers Centre The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres read the lesson. The Ambassador of Lebanon and Sir Anthony Joliffe paid tribute. Among others present were: Mrs Abels (widow), Mr and Mrs Albert J M Abels and Mr and Mrs Marion R P Abels

The Princess Royal, Patron, The Butler Trust, afterwards visited HM Prison Manchester, Southall Allest data was a sure in-law), other members of the family, representatives from the Diplomatic Corps, Middle East companies. Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Logistic Corps, later opened the new Territorial Army Centre at Haldane Bar-racks, Haldane Road, Salford, Major-General Sir Charles

Dunphie
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Major-General Sir Charles: Dunphie was held yesterday at St. Stephen's. Charlton Musgrove, Somerset. The Rev Kenneth Reeve officiated, assisted by the Rev

officiated, assisted by the Nev Robert Widdowson. Brigadier Christopher Dumphie, son, read the lesson and Mr Nicholas Baker, Mr Nigel Baker and Captain Charles Dunphie, grandsons, gave readings. Lady Dunphie, wdow, other members of the family, friends and former colleagues were among those

Luncheons

Cariton Club Miss Ann Widdecombe, Shadow Secretary of State for Health, was the guest of bonour and speaker at a luncheon of the Political Committee of the Carlton Club held yesterday at the club. Mr Simon Mabey, Chairman of the Political Committee, and Dr Cyril Nemeth also spoke.

Carmen's Company The annual charity luncheon of the Carmen's Company was held yes-terday at Painters' Hall, Mr J.A.T. Saywell, Master, presided, assist ed by Mr J.M. Silbermann, Senior Warden, and Mr B.H. Owen, Junior Warden, Lord Ashley of Stoke, CH, President of Defeating Deafness (The Hearing Research Trust) and Mr M.L. Simpkin. Clerk to Christ's Hospital, also spoke.

Mid-Atlantic Club The Austrian Ambassador was the guest of honour and speaker at a function of the Mid-Atlantic Club held yesterday at Dartmouth House. Herr Peter von Butler, Minister at the German Embassy,

Linnean Society of London The following nominations have been made by the Linnean Society

President-clean Sir David Smith, FRS (Wolfson Chilego, Oxford); Botanical Secretary: Or John Edmandson (National Museums and Galleries of Mersey-

Rucigo membership: Professor J.W. Schopf (B) USA, Professor N.N. Tzvelev (B) Russia and Professor W. Barthlott (B) Pellows Honoris Causa: Professor Brian Gardiner and Professor Vernon Hey-

Linnean Gold Medal for Botany: Profes-Linnean Gold Medal for Botany: Protes-sor Barry Tominson (Flaveard). Linnean Gold Medal for Zoology: Dr Quantin Bone, FRS (Physicuth). Biotnetoxy medal for Biologis, under 40: Dr Paul Kenrick (Natural History Museum). H H Bloomer Award for an Amantur

H H Bloomer Award for an Amanur, Biologist: Mr R H Roberts, Jill Smythies Prize for published botani-cal illustration: Ms Pandora Sellars. Jrene Manton Prize for a PhD thesis in plant sciences: Dr Melissa Spicimum (Oxford).



THE CONTRACTOR SECURITION OF THE SECURITIES WE WERE ASSOCIATED ASS

The Quack Doctor and A Chip off the Old Block





plays on words — "a detach-ment" which depicts soldiers

being decapitated by a can-

non ball. Almost every con-

ceivable character - from

bakers to doctors, coachmen

to pawabrokers - come in for

Flicking through the vol-ume, which measures just 7.5

by 5 inches, Mr Shapero

pointed to The Quack Doctor,

a robust fellow who clearly

does not knowing what he is

supposed to be doing. He

alighted too on The Debtor, which shows a thin figure with hand outstretched, and

The Creditor, who is fat and

The volume had been in the

collection of an Englishman

living abroad. Why Herring

created it is unclear - for his

own amusement, said Mr

Shapero, or to show off his

ridicule.

smiling.

The English Cook and the Debtor

#### **Drawing classes** in ridicule

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

A REMARKABLE 1831 al- "Ministers of Grease" - and bum of original watercolour drawings ridiculing the lower and middle classes indulging in a variety of pursuits has appeared on the open market. Bernard Shapero, a leading antiquarian bookseller in London who has valued it at £18,000, described Flights of

Fancy by John Frederick Herring the Younger as "an extremely droll collection, its Georgian humour and satiric high spirits undiminished by time". Some 270 drawings are each captioned, often with several stanza of meticulous verse or humorous mono-logues. He said: "Many deal with a variety of mishaps, the fault of carelessness, drink, debt, doctors and other profes-

sionals, social pretensions, amatory inclinations, sloth and general foolishness." There are puns - the

Miss Anne Prudence Wakefield and Mr Anthony Ronald Webb to

be Circuit Judges assigned to the South Eastern Circuit.

Immigration Adjudicators Mr Peter Ronald Moulden has

been appointed a full-time immi-eration Adjudicator. He has been

designated a Special Adjudicator

Major-General Michael Hugo Priend Clarke (barrister), Mrs Patricia Helen Farrall (barrister),

Mr Richard Chalkley (solicitor, Tunbridge Wells) and Mr Nathan Harold Goldstein (solicitor) have

been appointed full time Immigra-tion Adjudicators. Major-General

Clark to be a Special Adjudicator from February I, Mrs Farrall from March I, Mr Chalkley from March 8 and Mr Goldstein from March 29.

Legal

appointments

from January 29.

Appointments

Mr Donald Lamont has been appointed Governor to the Falk-land Islands and Commissioner for South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands in succession to Mr Richard Ralph who will be transferring to a new Diplomatic

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Professor Peter Crane has been appointed Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in succes-sion to Professor Sir Ghillean Prance, FRS, who will retire at the

University news Cambridge

Queens' College Elected to a Bye Fellowship from January I: Dan Ovidin Crisan, 8Sc Bucharest), PhD (Edinburgh).

#### **Dinners**

The Speaker was the bost at a dinner held yesterday at Speaker's House in honour of a parliamentary delegation from the Slovak Republic, led by Mr Jozef Migas, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic. Among oth-

ers present were:

The Ambassador of the Stouk Republic, Baroness Gould of Potternewton, Mr John Assato, MP, Mr Tony Baldry, MP, Miss Anne Begg, MP, Mr Tony Baldry, MP, Miss Anne Begg, MP, Mr John Camatings, MP, Mr Tom Dalyell, MP, Dr Bwan Harris, MP, Mr John Hayes, MP, Miss Kona Macangart, MP, Mr Dao May Marshall, MP, Mr Michael Martha, MP, Mr Doog Naysmith, MP, Mr Dao Norris, MP, Mr James Plashin, MP, Mr Gordon Frentier MP, Mr John Ramdall, MP, Mrs Marion Roe, MP, Mr Sephen Twing, MP, Miss Alexandra Flabe, Mr Peter Harborde, Mr David Ramssy, Mr Jim, Rodgess, Miss Sura Soulte. Canon Robert Wright and Mr Nicolas Bevour.

Farmers' Company
Mr Christopher Pertwee, Master
of the Farmers' Company, presided at a ladies dinner held last night at Plaisterers' Hall. The Right Rev John Waine, KCVO, also spoke. The Masters of the Curriers' and Arbitrators' Companies and their ladies were among the guests. Company of Scientific Instrument Makers Mr Ben Cross de Chavannes was

the principal guest at the Achieve-ment Award dinner of the Company of Scientific Instrument Makers held last night at Scientific Instruheld last night at Scientific Instru-ment. Makers: Hall. Mr Brian Atherton, Master, presented the Scientific Instrument Makers: Bo-wen Award to Flight Lieutenant John Bauer, and the SIM-Brunel Award to Mr Jon Bartholomew. Sir Ivor Cohen, Deputy Master, presented the company's 1998 Achievement. Award to Mr. Alastair Crawford, Managing Di-rector of VG Gas. Dr Derek Corroist also snoke. Among others Cornish also spoke. Among others

Group Captain Neil Gasumon, the Vice-Capacities of the City University, the Headteacher of Waverley Upper School and the Masters of the Planstreer, Gardeners, Air Floos & Air Nostquaters, and Water Capacity Companies. present were:

London Goodenough Trust for Oversens Graduates

of the London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates, and Major-General T.P. Toyne Sewell, director, received the guests at the annual Arts Faculty dinner held last night at Mecklenburgh. Square Lord Puttnam was the guest speaker. Foundation for Science and

Technology Dr Geraldine Kenney-Wallace, Professor Brian Fender, Mr John Gray and Dr Anne Wright were the speakers at a lecture and dinner discussion of the Rounda-tion for Science and Technology held last night at the Royal Society. Lord Jenkin of Roding, chairman of the council, presided.

Guild of Freemen of the City of

London Mr Norman Munday, Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, presided at a dinner held last night at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. Brigadier W.K.L. Prosser, Clerk of the Tallow Chandlers' Company, also spoke.

Service dinner

Bristol University Air Squadron. Air Marshal Sir Anthony Bagnall, Air Member for Personnel and Air Officer Commanding in-Chief, Persomel and Training Command, RAF Innsworth, was the guest of honour at the Bristol University Air Squadron's annual dinner held last night at Azimghur Barracks, Colerne, Squadron Léader J. B. Bowen, Commanding Officer, pre-sided. Other principal guests in-

CHINGG:
Air Vice-Marshal T W Rimmer, Air Offices'
Commanding and Commandant RAF College, Cranwell, Air Commodore J D
Resnedy, Commandant Air Caders, Sir
John Kingman, FRS, Vice-Chancellor, Brisrol University, Professor V D Vandel Jonde,
Vice-Chinellor, Buth University and Mr A
C Morris, Vice-Chancellor, University of the
West of England, Bristol.

### **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr H.J. Blosse Lynch and Miss A.K. MacIntyre

The engagement is announced between James, son of Major and Mrs Henry Blosse-Lynch, of Headley, Berkshire, and Annahelle, daughter of ian MacIntyre of Camus-na-h-Erie and Mrs Nigel de Marsac Godden, of Brompton Ralph, Somerset. Mr S.P. Davies

and Miss S.C. Ratter The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr Frederick Davies, of Poole, Dorset. and Mrs fillian Manning, of Oakham, Rutland, and Sarah, youngest daughter of Sir Donald and Lady Rattee, of Cheam.

Mr S.J. Hickling and Miss S.C. Watson

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr Peter Hickling, of Halstead, Essex, and Mrs Deanna Hickling, of Stow Bardolph, Norfolk, and Sara-daughter of Mr Charles Watson, of Bishop's Canndle, Dorset, and Mrs Robert Streeter, of Clare,

Mr T.B. Howells and Miss A. Barber The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of the late Mr Christopher Howells and of Lady Graham, of Shipton-under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire, and Annabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Barber, of Kingston Blount,

Mr D.G. Knoeppe nd Miss S.E.J. Gilm the engagement is announced between Daniel, youngest sun of Mr and Mrs Albert Knoeppel, of Humington, New York, USA, and Sarah, daughter of Mr F.J.A. Gilmour, of Ardersler, inverness,

and Mrs Philip Rayner, of Edinburgh. Mr F.L. Mertens and Miss C.T. Biles

The engagement is announced between Frank Lea, son of Dr and Mrs Rent Meatens, of Geel, Belgium, and Celine Therese, daughter of Mr and Mrs William.

Mr T.A. Long and Miss P.M. Radeliffe The engagement is announced between Tohy, son of Mr Symon Long, of Ipswich, Suffolk, and Mrs A STATE OF THE STA

Janet Young, of Bildeston, Suffolk. and Pip. daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Radeliffe, of The Vicarage, Langford, Gloncester. Mr S.W. Platt

and Miss M.J. Cohen The engagement is announced between Stephen William, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Plan, of Valkenburg. The Netherlands, and Melanie Jame, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stanley Cohen, of St Lawrence, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Mr G.C. Stephenson and Miss M.C. Wagg The engagement is armounced between Guy, eldest son of Mr Tim Stephenson, of Amport, Hampshire. and Mrs Nerena Stephenson, of Didmarton, Gioucesershire, and Marina, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Wage, of Ascot,

Mr D.A. Udell and Miss K.M.Y. Fong The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Stanley Udell, of Stamford, Connecticut, and Karen, daughter

of Mr Rong Yeng Soh and the late Mrs Fong Yeng Soh, of Singapore. Mr P.J.A. Williamson and Miss S.A.M. Bayne The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs John Williamson, of Whangarei, New Zealand, and Edinburgh, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and

Mrs Alan Bayne, of Fittleworth,

Marriage

Mr D.J. Isaaman and Miss M. de Casanove The marriage has taken place in Antique of Daniel Issumm, son of Mr and Mrs Gerald Isaaman, of Hampstead, London, and Michele de Casanove, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Claude de Casanove, of New Southgate, Barnet.

#### Church news

Bishop of Lynn The Ven Anthony Fount, Archdeacon of Lynn (Norwich): 10 bs Suffragan Bishop of Lynn in succession to the Right Rev David

Bishop of Ramsbury Canon Peter Hullah, Headmaster, Chetham's School of Music, and Honorary Canon of the Cathedral and Collegiate Church of St Mary, St Denys and St George (Manchester): to be Sulfragan Bishop of Ramsbury (Salisbury).

The Rev Dr Jean Wadsworth, Priest in Charge, New Eltham all Saints (Southwark): has been appointed Vicar, same benefice. The Rev Philip Watson, Team Vicar, The Benwell Team (Newcastle): to be Vicar, Stocking Farm St Luke (Leicester). Retirements and resignations

The Rev Michael Clarke, Rector, Highnam, Lassington, Rudford, Tibberton and Taynton (Glouces ter) to retire December 31. The Ven Alan Clarkson, Archdeacon of Winchester, and Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral, and Vicar, Burley Ville (Winchester) to rotine February 28, 1999. The Rev Brian Cranwell, Vicar, Handsworth Woodhouse St James

(Sheffield) to retire January 31. The Rev Peter Dodd, Chaplain November 1998, with permission

The Rev Malcolm Extey, Vicar, Bridlington Emmanuel (York) re-tired December 6. Canon Eric Hatolyo, Rector, Bos-ford; Diocesan Adviser for Clergy Training and Honorary Canon of St Edmundsburg and Ipswich Cathedral (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) retired January I, 1999. The Rey Graham Politit, Chaplain, Cheltenham and Gloucester Col-lege of Higher Education (Glouces-tes) resigned October 13. Prebendary John Skinner, Rector, Exeter St Leonard w Holy Trinity The Rev Geoffrey Smith, Rector, Teme Valley North (Worcester) retired October 31.

The Rev Roger Stirrup, Team Rector, Ross Team Ministry (Here-ford) to retire May 30, 1999. The Rev Caroline Wareham, Assistant Curate, Aldershot St Michael and Ascension (Guildford) retired November 30.

Board of Social Responsibility (Norwich): to be Diocesan Social Responsibility Officer (Hereford).

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

to have wisdom and knowledge than gold and silver. Proverbs 16.16 (GNB).

BIRTHS

ASTBURY - On January 28th at Cheltenham General Hospital, to Nicola (néo Skinner) and Paul, a daughter, Sarah Charlotte cangoer, Saran Coanotos ARDHAN - On January 23rd at The Portland Hospital to Rachel (nie Chapple) and Indrajit, a son, Hrishikesh.

Hiranicen.

HESLEY - On 25th lanuary to Sally (note Morris) and Crispian, a son, Charles George, a little brother and test driver for Hugo.

BICKER - On January 24th 1999 at The Portland Hospital to Jayne and Rospital to Jayne and Robert, a son, Maximil

BOWYER-BOWER - On December 31st 1998 Thomasina Lucy Arbuthnot, a daughter to Tanya and Sir William Arbuthnot Bt. CLEARY - On 28th January 1999 (Australia Day!) in Abn Dhabi, to Lucy (nec

Stutchbury) and Peter, a son, George Alan. COMBONS - On January 24th to Elizabeth (née Decker) and Paolo, a son, William Ciulio, brother to James Git L - On December 10th

1998 at Liverpool Wome Hospital to Angele and Andy, a beautiful son, James Philip John. HARRISON - On 22nd Jenuary 1999, to Jane (nee Warrior) and David, a daughter, Xara May. HODSON - On January 25th, in Brasil, to Tatl and James, a daughter, Youmin Suzanno.

SETZEMEN.

HOSPIER - On January 10th
to Elizabeth (nee Crant)
and Jeremy, a daughter,
Camilla India Elizabeth,
a sister for Edward and

KOCHAM - Pewel and Sophie are delighted to announce the birth of their son Sebastian Amedicas on 20th December 1998. Olivia. 20th December 1958.
LEGARO - On Ismusry 25th, to Lucy (nds Kirkpatrick) and Edward, a son, Alexander Thomas, a brother for Oliver and Colia. BIRTHS

MERPICK - On January 19th at The Portland Hospital to Jami and Paul, a son, Jordan Robert.

SMITH - On January 22nd at The Portland Hospital to Suzznne into Saul-David) and Carry, a daughter, Lauren Sasha. A sister for Officer.

STRATHCLYDE - On January 27th to Jane and Thomas, a daughter and sister to Elizabeth and Annabel.

WALKER - On Monday 25th Jamuary 1989 at the Royal Berkuhire Hospital, Reading, to Melitsa (née Houseman) and Matthew, a son, Oliver Blyth.

WINT DARLEY – On January 22nd, to Sara (26e Shepherd-Cross) and George, a daughter, Serena Alica

DEATHS

LOUNCH ERCOMI - On Tuesday 26th January at the Kent and Canturbury Hospital, to Elizabeth (née Heartfield) and Paul, a wonderful danghter, Orfinialth (Oria), a sister for Copor.

LYNCH - On January 23rd at The Portland Hospital to Cheryi and John, a daughter, Virginia Katherine, a sister for John Shaw.

MYERS - On January 4th 1999 to Clare and Robert, a son, Henry Mark Buriton.

O'KELLY - On January 23rd, to Atom (née Foulds) and William, a son, Michael Christian, a brother for Alexandra.

PECUVER – On 10th January 1999, to Lucy (née Mellor) and Willism, a dénghter Beatrice Margaret, a siste for Hugh and Matilda.

STUTCHBURY - See Cleary.

TAYLOR - On January 12th to Josie (neé Eliss) and Simon a daughter, Lers Amber.

**S.IJ. Donations to** 

ARBERSON - Asta (née Dahi) aged 78, formesty of Chulmieigh and High Wycombe, died peacefully at Chitine Roose on 25th January 1998. Destry loved wife of the late Alex C Anderson, much loved mother of William, Alexandra and Peter and grandmother of Ksy, Doug, Barney and Jamis, Funeral service at Chiliama Crematorium, Amerabam, Bucks at 11.00 am on Wednesday, 3rd February, No flowers but donations, if wished, to Macmillan Camoer Relief c/o Wright Funeral Services, 106 High Street, Great Missenden, HP18 OBE.

ANDERSON - Frank Sydney died on 25th Ismary 1999 at the Surrey County Hospital, Geildford. He will be greatly missed by family and friends. Funeral at Geildford Crematerium on 3rd February at 11 am. No flowers please but

Howers please but donations to the Imperial Cancer Research Frand c/o Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 23 South Road, Guildlord, Surrey GU2 6NY, tel: 01483-567333.

BALAAM - Dorothy Frances
Allan (née Tomes)
suddenly at home in
Dulwich, on Esturday
Jemusry 22rd 1999, aged
84. Wife of the late Dudley
Claude Balazm, mother of
Pat, Peter and Derek.
Grandmother of 11 and
great-grandmother of 2.
Puneral service on Priday
February 5th, 11.30 am at
Camber well New
Cemetary, Brenchley
Gardena, Honor Oak,
followed by Burial at
Camberwell Old Cemetery,
Forest Hill Road. Family
flowers only to Udena, 375
Lordship Lane, East Lordship Lane, East Dulwich, London SE22

BAXTER - Dorsen Mary, of Sidmouth, on January 25th 1999, peacefully in hospital after a short illness. Widow of Ian, much loved mother of Andrew and Alicen and best grandma in the world' to Tamein. Much respected teacher and former Head of Mathematics at St. Alhans High School. Funeral Service at Exeter & Devon Crematerium on Monday February 1st at 1pm. Donations, if desired, to Arthritis Research Campaign, c/o Pothury's Funeral Service, High Street, Sidmouth pieses.

BAXTER - Felicity Josu (née Partridge) wife for 54 years of Lewis Bacter. Resident in Iran for many years until 1963. Died in Westbury Hospital on Monday 25th Ianusty 1999. Funeral Service at All Saints Church. Westbury on Tuesday 2nd Februsry at 2 pm. Family flowers only please. Donations in lies if desired to All Saints Church c/o Arthur W. Mays, 52 Warminster Road, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 3FF.

BROWN - John McLeod suddenly but peacefully at home in France on Sunday 24th January. Beloved husband of Ann, much loved father of Peta, John and Abigail. Service at 1. Egitse St Bisine, Piace d'Egitse, Valbonne on Monday 1st February at 11am.

BUMGESS - On Thursday 21st Ismnary 1899, posceptully, Lillan Margaret Colvin (Ann) aged 94, widow of Freddy Burgess, much joved mother of Joanns and Veteria, grandmother of Catharine Staughton and Sarah Domidson, great grandmother of and Sarah Domidson, greet grandmother of Douglas and Mairi. Funeral Service at Chaisea Old Charpth on Wednesday Std Pebruary at 230pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Fulham Good Neighbours, 378 Lillie Road, SW6 7PH.

SISTLEN - Edward Clive
Barber (Clive) F.R.C.S.,
peacefully on 25th January
1999, Much loved father of
Anne, Bruce and Donglas.
Cremation at City of
London Crematorium,
Manor Park at 11.30 am on
Friday 5th February.
Family flowers. Donations
if desired to The League of
Friends, The London
Hospital Enquiries to H L
Hawes, 133 Sattion Read,
Chinglord, EA 6AG, 0181
559 3235.

CASEY-Rt. Rev. Patrick
Joseph, former Bishop of
Brentwood on January
28th at home at Leigh-opSea, Essex, aged 85.
Funeral Mass at Cathedral
Church of 5t Mary and 5t
Helen, Brantwood on
February 5th at 11.30am,
followed by interment in
Cathedral cametery.

CURRE - The Reverend Plets William Edward Currie M.C. (R.H.A.). Currie M.C. (R.H.A.).
Destract beloved husband of Rossisen, loving brother of Maureen. Requiem at St. Andrew's Church.
Letheringsett by Holt, Norfolk, on Monday 1st. February at 12 noon.
Thanksgiving Service at. Norwich Cathedral on Monday 22nd February at 2 nm. Contributions in his memory to The Secretary, St. Andrew's Church.
P.C.C.

de WINTON - Henry Charles Jeffreys on January 20th aged 90 years. For 61 years beloved husband of Barbars Anne. Fumeral Service at 5t Margaret's Church, Reydon on Thursday February 4th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only.

OFFRIE - Effect on January 23rd in hospital and of Leeds 3 aged 50 years, wife of the into Douglas and mother of Elizabeth. Enquiries to G.E. Hartley & Son tel: (0113) 2892354.

DRAPER - Ernert Charles, passed peacefully away at Moor Cottage Residential Home, Cookham on 21st January 1993, aged 93 years. Funeral to take place at Amerikam Crematorium on Thursday February 4th at 4 pm. Enquiries to Pymm and Hooper, tel 01525 623822.

please, any donations to be made to Trinity Hospice, c/e Knoz Brow, 53 Haydons Road, London, SW19.

FALCON-STEWARD -FALCON-SIEWARD
Peacefully on 22rd
Jammey 1999 aged 95
years, Mary Violet will be
sadly missed by all who
knew her. The Puberal
Mass will be held at Circlet
the Prince of Peace
Church, Portmore Way,
Weybridge 10,00 am
Veybridge 10,00 am
Veybridge Cametary,
Brooklands Lama,
Weybridge, All enquirles
to F W Chitty, Tel: 01832 FIRLER - On January 25th
1939 peacefully at the
Charchill Hospital,
Orford, Sneamas
Elizabeth Fuller aged 64
years. Beloved mother of
Tony and Chris and a
greetly loved Nama.
Funeral Service at Holy
Trinity Church, Witney or
Thursday February 4th at
1.30 pm. Family flowers
only please. Donartions if
desired for The Oxford
Playhouse of Edward
Carter (FD), 167 Sorth
Avenue, Abingdon OX14

IQS.

6AY - John, husband of Marie, resident of Highgate, died suddenly on 24th January 1999.

Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium on Treaday 2nd February at I pm. No flowers please. For further information and details of charities to which donations may be sent contact William Heath and Co Solicitors, 16 Sale Place, Sussex Gardens.

London W2 IPX.

Telsphone: 0171 402, 3151.

Telephone: 0171 402 3151.

HADFELD - Gay, aged 55 years, peeceduily at home on January 27th Dearly loved wife of Max. Devoted mother of Edward and Sem. Much loved by her family and dear friend to many. Funeral on Tuesday February 2nd at St. Marty's Frensham, at 2pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Phylis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice, c/o Thome Leggett, I Brenthurst. Petersfield Ed. Whitchills, Bordon, GUSS 9AR.

HARDWICKE - Professo HARDWICKE - Professor John, ESG., MD., FRCP., FRCPATH, of Malearn, aged 78 years. Late of Birmingham University. Died peacefully on Jonath Husband and best friend of Jan and brother of Mary, Jean and Namey. The funeral service will take place at Worcester Crematorium on Friday the 5th Pebruary at 2mm, Femily Inverse only places. Donathous to The National Kidney Research Fund may be sent to Maleolin J Fresiand Funer, Upton upon Severn, WES CHJ.

KinessLey-Mona Caroline
(Kay), much loved
daughter of Patrick and
Prisoilla and her brothers
Rughe, Andrew and Int.
Died suddenly on 24th
January after a heave fight
against canoer. Cremation
private. Service of
Remembrance on Remembrance on February 27th 1999, at -West Encyle Church, Wiltshire at 2.30pm. No Howers. Donations, if desired, to Cancer Research.

MASON - Philip (Woodruft), writer, died peecsfully at home in Cambridge, aged 32 on 25th January. He is survived by his loving and beloved wife Mary. The funeral will be held at 3t Philip Howard Church; Walpole Road, Cambridge, at 12 noon on Tuesday 2nd Pehruary. Family flowers. Donations in his memory to Cafed, c/o Cambridge Pumeral Services, 617. Newmarket Road, Cambridge, CBS SPA.

McKAY - On January 25th, peacefully, John Alan Ferbes McKay, aged 85, father of Ellenbeth and Patricia. Funeral at Mccrisian Cremeterium on Pridey, February 5th at John Donations, if desired, to St John Ambulance, I Gruswane Crescent, London SWIX 7EF.

MMLSON - Megan Laura, aged 72, died peacafully on 17th January, Beloved wife of John, mother of Ann and Peter, sister of Cocil Woodles. She will be greatly missed by her jumily and many friends. Private cranation. Family flowers only. Donations if dealred, to the Cat Protection League, 17 Kings Road, Horsbam, West Sussen RHI3 5PN. Memorial Service to be arranged.

PARKER - On 25th Jenusry
1999. Pescefully of
Derwanias, Machynlieth,
Powys. Aged 90 years.
Frederick William. Long
standing companion of the
late Rosemary Stjenusedt.
Public Inneral service at
6t Peter's Church,
Machynlieth on Monday,
lat February at 1.30 pm
followed by interment at
Aberdyll Camptery,
Flowers accepted or
donations in lieu
gratefully received
towards the R.N.L.L. c/o.
Enquiries to Glyn Rees &
Son, Funeral Directors,
Dima Mawddwy, Tei:01650-531240.

PENDRICH - John Robert. On 23nd January 1999, suddenly but peacafully at home. Beloved husband of Margaret, much loved father of Nigel and Naorui. Service at St Michaels Church, Betchworth, Surrey at 2.00 pm on Thuraday, 4th February. Plowers or domations to the British Heart Foundation may be sent to Stonemans, Doran Court, Reighte Road, Redhill, RHI GAZ.

Pictup - Betty (Dorothy
Elizabeth) on Friday 22nd
January suddenly while on
holiday in Matta. Much
loved wife of Geoff,
adored mother,
graminother and friend.
Known by many, loved by
all Funeral Service Friday
5th February 12.15 pm at
5t Michael's Church.
Framingham, Suffolk. No
flowers please. Domations
to Children of the Ander',
4 Batth Flace, Elvington
Street, London ECZA
3DR.

Other appointments
Jackie Boys, Member, Diocesan

TRADE; 0171 481 1982

FAX: 0171 481 9313

PERSONAL COLUMN

OCDSON - Colonel (retd)
Kenneth OBE, late the
Q.O.E.W.E., Q.O.B., and
Queen's Regiment, died
peacefully on 28th
lannary. Dear husband of
See (nee Palmer), proud
father of Mark, Toby and
Luke. Father-in-law of
Kinsty, Catherine and
Micola. Grandpa of seven.
Good companion to family
sud meny friends. Funeral
2 pm Tuesday 2nd
February at 32 Martin's
Church, Horn Street
(B2064), Shornellife, Kent.
Estreehments after at
Risborough Officers Mess
during private burial
nearby. Family wreaths
only. Donations greatly
appreciated for Army
Benevolent Fund c/o
Fugels & Son. 20 Ashidord
Road, Tanterden, TN30
6QU, who will answer any
queries on 01580 783340.

EMERSON - Dr.H.J. MBE
(Tony) andly passed away
passefully on 24th Januar;
1999 at Trinty Bospica.
Cremation to be held at
Putney Vale Crematorium
on Tuesday 2nd February
at 11.30 am. No flowers
uleans, any departions to be

Amess Howell. - Dr Charles Anthony on 28th Isnnery peacefully in Otterbourne, aged 90, bluch loyed father, grandfather. Funeral Service at Southempton Crematorium (Est Chapel) on Monday 8th February at 3.00pm. Flowers please to Jno Steel & Son, Cheeli Street, Winchester.

HOPKERS - Barbara Rosemary, Descafully on 26th January. Beloved wife of Michael and adored friend of many. Donations if desired to British Heart Foundation. c/s Woking. Funeral Service, Tel: 01483 772268.

RES - Douglas Howeli
Smith. On January 24th
1999, Doug died suddenly
at home, aged 75 years.
Devoted and beloved
husband of Myra,
suceptional and much
loved father of Hilary and
Helen and a wonderful
grandfather of Stella,
Yusuf, Rebecca, Saunir and
Saflyya. Puneral service at
Harpenden Methodist
Church, 3.15pm, Thursday
February 4th. No flowers
by requiest - donations to by request - donations to British Heart Foundation if wished. RUSSETT - Harold A Russett
OBE, peesed peacefully
away 25th January, aged
79 years, leaving widow
Grace and children Robert
and Indith, Funeral
Service at Bristol
Cathedral on Monday 5th
February at 11.30 am. No.
flowers please. Doubtlone

rentuary at 11.30 am No flowers please. Donation if desired, for Road Haulage Association Benelowent Fund and Equipment for Hamham Doctor's Surgary c/o Premier Group, Sussex Street, Bristof BS2 ORD. TALBOT-POISONEY - Marie-Louise peacafully in Vancouver on 21st January 1999, Loved mother of Suzanne and Nigel

WALLACE - (Née Hereant) on 25th Jenuary 1999, peacefully in Grantham Hospital, in her 75th year, after a long illiness borns with great courage Ruth, beloved wife of (Dr? Konneth Robert Wallace, and adored mother of Mark, Clara, Paul and Christopher, Funeral service at St Wulframs Church, Grantham on Monday lat February at 2pus, followed by cremation, Family flowers only but donations, if deared, to David Holland & Sen, (Funeral Directory), London Road, Grantham, Linca, in aid of local Cancer support groups and Grantham Hospital League of Friends.

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#### OBITUARIES -

### REAR-ADMIRAL SIR LESLIE TOWNSEND

Rear-Admiral Sir Leslie Townsend, KCVO, CBE. Defence Services Secretary, 1979-82, died on January 13 aged 74. He was born on

eslie Townsend was one of that small group of naval officers who reached high trank after entering the Navy as a rating. The son of a merchant seaman, he always attributed his success to his demanding, frugal and posi-tive mother, a former lady's maid who lived to be nearly 100 and who obliged her son to speak properly and to attend night school where he learnt maths, German and typing.

Although eligible at the age of 15 when war broke out, he was unable to join the Navy as a boy seaman because his father refused his consent. Threatened with imprisonment by a recruiting sergeant for altering his National Em-ployment Card when he tried to join the Army, he went to work in an aircraft factory near Southampton, building Blenheim bombers. He was lucky to survive an air raid in September 1940 which killed fifty and destroyed the factory. He recalled how the centre of Southampton was nearly obliterated by the Luftwaffe and how thousands used to trek out to spend the nights in the countryside wrapped in blan-

kets or canvas. Accepted by the Navy in early 1942, Townsend trained as a signalman and was drafted to the light cruiser Durban. Service in this obsolete, uncomfortable ship in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean inspired in Townsend an inextinguishable concern for the conditions of sailors living on the lower deck.

Because he could type, he

was employed in the captain's office where a perceptive mid-shipman Charles Weston flater himself to become a rear-ad-miral) persuaded him to try-February 22, 1924.

for a commission.

After training at the officer school at Port Elizabeth in South Africa: Townsend was promoted to sub-lieutenant. RNVR Short of money for his uniform, he telegraphed his mother for \$50, which duly arrived. A letter from his father expressed pleasure and surprise: "In my day only the sons of gentlemen became officers."

He spent the rest of the war in supply and secretariat duties at a naval air station near Freetown in Sierra Leone, On one occasion, flying on antisubmarine patrol for the experience, he had a nasty shock when, on suggesting they should turn for base, he found

the pilot fast asleep.

After assisting with the military run-down in Nigeria. Townsend returned home, arriving on VJ-Day in August 1945, after three years abroad. Shortly afterwards he met his. wife Marjorie, a Wren Chief Petry Officer. Granted a permanent com-

mission in late 1946, he followed a Supply and Secretariat officer's career with the accent on service with flagship. and C-in-C's staffs.

He recalled that the decade to 1956 was a stagnant period for the Royal Navy, with questionable morale among people who had had a long war and were still enduring unenlightened conditions of service. Townsend owed at east two of his appointments to the malfeasance or premature resignation of previous incombents.

An outstandingly efficient officer, Townsend was rapidly promoted: In his first appointment as a captain he worked for Vice-Admiral Sir Peter flater Admiral of the Fleet Lord) Hill-Norton when he was Vice Chief of the Naval Staff. This relationship was to last for 12 years, with one break when Hill-Norton was

appointed C-in-C Far East.
As Hill-Norton progressed through posts as First Sea Lord, Chief of Defence Staff and chairman of Nato's Military Committee in Brussels, Townsend was his aide and confident throughout some of the more difficult years of Cold War defence politics. Issues included the repair of

relationships with the RAF. after the notorious "carrier battles that saw the loss of the Navy's fixed wing aviation, the genesis of the Invincible class "through-deck cruiser", withdrawal from the Far East and in 1974 after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, Hill-Norton's face to face negotiations with Greek and Turkish military chiefs, which did much to staunch this wound in the Nato alhance.

Townsend was appointed CBE in 1973. He was a member of the Royal House-hold in his final post as Defence Services Secretary. Here he was responsible for the smooth operation of institutional relations between the three services and the Royal Family. In recognition of this work, he was appointed KCVO in 1981.

For 12 years he was a member of the Lord Chancel-lor's Panel of Independent inspectors and was lay repre-sentative on the Armed Forces Pensions Appeal Tribunal. His charitable interests included the life vice presidency of the RN Benevolent Trust. He is survived by his wife Marjorie, and their son and



ish ballet company, Jack Carter was a choreographer less honoured than he deserved in his own country. Nevertheless, talent and perseverance enabled him to maintain a freelance career for more than 50 years, mounting his ballets all over the world. Some of them enjoyed a long life, and there were others which, al-though not remaining long in the repertoire, left vivid and abiding memories. Jack Carter was born at

Jack Carter, choreographer, died on December 30

aged 81. He was born on

August 8, 1917.

DESPITE having worked for

almost every important Brit-

Shrivenham, Oxfordshire, to farming parents who opposed his choice of career. His first passion was for music, and his earliest experience of theatre was when his school gymnastics class took part dancing in Mlada for the local operatic society. After leaving school he travelled to see opera when he could, despite being so hard up that he walked from Paddington to Covent Garden to keep costs down. Dance became his obsession once he had seen the Ballet Russe there, its glamour and theatricality a lifelong inspiration.

Not that there was much glamour in his beginnings as a dancer, which were postponed by wartime service. He managed, however, to compose some music during the war, and had the pleasure of hearing two short pieces played by the BBC. Eventually a demobilisation grant paid for dance classes. So he started ballet very late, at rising 30, which may explain why he always knocked six years off his age in the dance reference

Molly Lake first employed him as a dancer in her Ballet Guild and later in her Continental Ballet. When her inspiration dried up while making a duet for a new ballet, she caught him smiling and challenged him to finish it. That prompted his first complete choreography, Fantaisie, to Chopin music, in 1946. It seemed largely an unashamed imitation of Ashton's Dante Sonata, but he begged the distinguished choreographer Antony Tudor to watch it: he found enough promise to say: "Keep going - you might do something worthwhile some

Another piece for Continen-tal Ballet, the lively Impromptu for Twelve, was followed between 1950 and 1952 by several works for Ballet Workshop, formed at the tiny Mercury Theatre, Notting Hill, to develop new choreographers. Carter's Echo and Narcissus for them was shown on BBC television with two distinguished dancers, John Gilpin and Nathalie Krassovska, and he made an ambitious Proust evocation which was taken

into Ballet Rambert's reper-toire under the title Past Recalled.

JACK CARTER

Rambert acquired another of his Ballet Workshop creations, too, a comic treatment of The Life and Death of Lola Montez, and commissioned a further work from him. Carter also created the highly popular Stagioni for the small Ambassador Ballet, where he met the dancer and designer Norman McDowell who became his lifelong companion and collaborator.

But this activity, besides dancing in the Red Shoes film and the final incarnation of the original Ballet Russe (where Carter's roles included the important one of the Headmistress in Graduation Ball), brought only intermit-tent pay; often he went hungry, and once had nowhere to sleep but Victoria Station. So he and McDowell accepted



invitations to join the Ballet der Lage Landen in Amsterdam - a predecessor of the present Dutch National Ballet. Carter's productions there included Coppella, the first three-act ballet by a Dutch company, and The Witchboy which proved his key to international success.

Based on the American ballad of Barbara Allen, The Witchboy is a powerful drama about a beautiful supernatural creature who causes mob violence in a small community, is destroyed but rises again to new life. The emotional plot. its intellectual implications about good and evil, Carter's vivid choreography for princi-pals and ensemble, a strong score by Leonard Salzedo, and McDowell's double contribution as designer and as performer of the title role, ensured a major hit.

Deciding to leave Holland, Carter now set out to persuade Witchboy for John Gilpin, its leading man, as a complete contrast to his usual classical parts. After many delays they agreed and it was toured widely, leading to further work for Festival Ballet (including one with plot and music by Noël Coward, London Morning, and to commissions for

other countries. in 1964 McDowell and Carter decided to form their own small company, London Dance Theatre, inviting other

choreographers, too. It won much critical acclaim, above all for Carter's ballet Agrio-nia, an intensely gripping work built around McDowell as a Dionysus figure who destroys three sisters. But Dance Theatre could not continue without subsidy. The Arts Council, having just begun to support Festival Ballet, would not take on another client and instead suggested a merger. Festival swallowing Dance Theatre, with McDowell as artistic director and Carter as chief choreographer.

Among Carter's produc-tions from this period, the most successful was a new staging of The Nutcracker, prepared in a great hurry when David Lichine wanted too high a fee for his existing version. Far from proving a makeshift, Carter's Nutcracker (with McDowell supervising the old designs by Benois) is widely and warmly remembered as much the best of Festival Ballet's many productions of that work, so vital to. the company's financial survival. Carter also staged an interesting Swan Lake: rare in using Tchaikovsky's own order for the music, and giving the usual dual ballerina role of Odette/Odile to two women, so that they could confront each other. Although soon dropped by Festival Ballet to make way for a more conventional approach, Carter's Swan Lake is still being given after 35 years at the Teatro Colon, Buenos Aires, where he also staged it.

Another of Carter's most memorable works, Cage of God was made in 1967 for Western Theatre Ballet, a highly astringent but compelling treatment of Adam, Eve. Cain and Abel to music by Alan Rawsthorne. That company later became Scottish Bailet and staged further works by Carter, most notably Three Dances to Japanese Music, & highly original, popular and enduring piece. In 1975-76 Carter made two

works for the Royal Ballet: a Japanese revenge story, Shukumei to music by Stomu Yamash'ta, with a heroine who becomes a samurai, and an amusingly flippant treatment of Wedekind's Lulu to a Milhaud score. Both showed flair and individuality but for some reason they did not catch on, and thereafter work for him in Britain dried up except ever, he was kept continually busy abroad, so that North and South Americal Japan and New Zealand saw more of his work than Britain did in the last two decades.

His companion and collaborator Norman McDowell died in 1930. Carter, however, remained active into his eightieth year, optimistic and cheerful whatever adversity he met. He supervised a revival of his Swan Lake in Buenos Aires as recently as last summer.

#### PROFESSOR H. A. F. TURNER

three daughters.

Professor H. A. F. Turner, Montague Burion Professor of Industrial Relations in the University of Cambridge, 1963-83, died at his home la France on December 2 aged 78. He was born in London on December 11, 1919. . .

BERT TURNER was the most original of the creators of industrial relations as an acaд пр вни 1945. His interests were wide and he made many thoughtprovoking contributions. Early employment at the TUC under Sir Walter Citrine gave him a lasting interest in economic policy, price and wage inflation, trade union activities, management and industrial relations systems, collective bargaining and employment conditions...

Turner was the first academic in Britain to consider the Swedish concept of wage drift, the tendency of earnings to increase faster than agreed wage rates. He took the

TALITY



lead in examining the impact of trade union organisation and policy on wages and wage differentials. He was among the first to consider the potential for prices and incomes policies to counter wage and price inflation. He also carried out ground-breaking studies of strikes and the extent to which trade unions cause. inflation.

His great strength was a thorough understanding of the TUC and was part of the

economics and statistics, par-ticularly the operation of labour markets and the limita-tions of available statistics. This set him apart from most other academic industrial relations specialists, notably the Oxford group, who concentrated on institutional background and history, the nature of trade unions and collective bargaining. He also, policy and in prices and incomes policies in less developed countries, and advised many governments, particularly in Africa. The recent probiems suffered by many of these

countries were a source of sadness to him. Herbert Arthur Frederick Turner was educated at the Henry Thornton School, Clapham, and graduated from LSE in 1939. He spent the war first in the Army and later on the Second Sea Lord's staff. in 1944 he joined the research and economic department of team which prepared the Inter-im Report on Post-War Recon-struction which mapped out the Attlee Government's pro-In 1950 he took up the new

post of lecturer in industrial relations at Manchester University, and his 1952 article, Trade Unions, Differentials and the Levelling of Wages, previewed his theory of the on pay differentials. His book Trade Union Growth, Structure and Policy (1962) was the most far-ranging analysis of British trade unions since the

In 1963, after two years as Montague Burton Professor of Industrial Relations at Leeds University, he took up the Cambridge chair. There he showed the breadth of his interests, in 1965 he published Wages: the Problems for Underdeveloped Countries and in 1966 Prices, Wages and Incomes Policies. He gathered around him a notable re-

acement service in voor area?

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Strike Prone? (1969), his most notable attack on accepted notions: 'Do Trade Unions Cause inflation? (1972), a world's most pressing problems; and Management Characteristics and Labour Conflict (1978). He became a part-time member of the National Board for

search team whose output under his leadership included

Labour Relations in the Mo-tor Industry (1967), the first

and most thorough investiga-

tion into Britain's most notori-

ous industrial relations trou-

bie-spot: Is Britain Really

Prices and Incomes in 1967 until its dissolution, playing an important part in the application of the prices and incomes policy of the day. His expertise was also in growing demand internationally. For many years he advised, mainly on labour and

pay policy, a range of govern-ments of developing countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, either directly or through the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations, and he was a World Bank consultant on

Bert Turner was tall, blond, lean, imposing and a snappy dresser. Both professionally and personally he was an iconoclast. His contributions to debates were always well judged and concise, even if occasionally delivered in a seemingly off-hand and flippant manner, particularly to the pompous.

He was an inspiring lecturer and his tutorials and postgraduate supervisions were challenging and provocative, as students were prodded and persuaded into minking. He was good company, kind, sharp, funny, zestful and thoughtful in turn.

He is survived by his fourth wife, Evelyne Hanquart-Turn-er, Professor of English at the University of Paris XII. by their son and daughter, by a daughter of his second marriage and by the two sons and daughter of his first.



# PERSONAL COLUMN

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#### THE DEATH OF SIGNOR VERDI

. Although the life of Verdi was outwardly almost uneventful, yet a stranger career i would be hard to find in the whole of musica history. Alterations of style and method are, of course, not uncommon in any art; but in most cases either the early manner is a mere reflection of something already existing, or the later is adopted in compliance with fashion rather than from conviction. With Verdi all but the first of his four

distinct manners were emphatically his own:
and, as be was idolized by his enhusiastic
countrymen at every stage of his development,
the causes of his changes of style must be
looked for in his own convictions. His first opera, Oberto, Conte di San Bonifacio, owed a good deal, no doubt, to the Bellini-Donizetti style that was in vogue when he was a young man; but the operas of which La Traviata and Il Trovatore are the typical examples were as unmistakably his own as the richer yet severer beamles of Don Carlos, Aida, and the Merconi Requiem, or as the noble and truly dramatic unerances of Otello and the epigrammatic conciseness of Falstaff; and, identified as he was in his youth with the Royalist cause in the liberation of Italy, Verdi

#### ON THIS DAY January 28, 1901

### 

Giuseppe Verdi, who had died on the 27th. was born at Roncole, near Busetto, Parma. His first visit to England was in 1847 to conduct I masnadieri at Her Majesty's with Jenny Lind leading the cast.

ended his career as the representative of the conservative party, both politically and

In the now forgotten war of publishers he was on the side of the older firm, and his last opera was rightly considered as a most serious counterblast to the productions of the "Young Italy" school, of which Mascagni was the most prominent

A scarcely less remarkable thing in his career is his unparalleled popularity. In Italy it was immediate; in other countries, not

unnaturally there was some opposition. In view of much that used to be said and written not so very long ago about the effect of Wagner's works upon singers and the art of singing, it is not without interest to read that in 1847 one of the leading English critics wrote, in a preliminary criticism of Verdi:
"He has hitherto shown no power as a
melodist... Signor Verdi's forte is
declamatory music... never hesitating to
force an effect or to drive the singers to the 'most hazardous passes . . . He is nothing if not noisy . . . and tempts us out of contradiction to long for the sweetest piece of sickliness which Paisiello put forth long before the notion of an orchestra had reached Italy or the singer's art was thought to mean a super-human force of lungs"; and in Lever's "Dodd Family Abroad" (1854) one of the characters, who is supposed to be repeating the prevalent opinions of Brussels, altudes to a new composer, "one Verdi — a fellow, they tell me, that cracks every voice in Europe." In more recent years, when the triumph of modern German opera was beginning, the musical world, little dreaming that Otello and Falstaff were yet to come in the composer's 74th and 80th years, assailed Verdi with much of the criticism which is summarized in Browning's familiar line about him and "His orchestra of salt-box, tongs and bones

#### Murder strains Ulster peace plan

Republicans were accused last night of murdering a prominent IRA defector who was found with severe head injuries minutes after he had apparently painted over graffiti predicting his death.

The body of Earnon Collins, a self-confessed IRA killer who exposed republican atrocities in the book Killing Rage, was found 

#### Muslim cleric's son arrested in Yemen

The teenage son of a Muslim cleric suspected of masterminding terrorist operations from his London mosque was seized in Yemen. Muhammed Kamil Mustapha and two other Britons were captured at what the Yemenis described as a mountaintop terrorist training camp, shortly before five Britons went on trial accused of plotting bombings in Aden......Pages 1. 4

#### Labour stays ahead

Tony Blair and Labour have maintained their commanding lead in the opinion polls over the faltering Tories, brushing aside the Christmas wobbles and in-

#### NHS morale low

Frank Dobson admitted that NHS morale is generally low. with a shortage of at least 9,000 nurses, problems in recruiting inner-city GPs and a danger of care standards falling....

#### Hollingsworth fined

The showbusiness agent husband of Anne Diamond was fined and banned from driving after a court was told of a violent row with a former girlfriend at a Halloween ... Page 3

#### Actor 'faked' shock

An amateur actor gave signs of suffering deep shock shortly after she is alleged to have bludgeoned and stabbed her lover's wife to death, a court heard......Page 3

#### Animal trainer guilty Mary Chipperfield left court with

her reputation as an animal trainer in tatters after she was found guilty of hitting and kicking a baby chimpanzee....

#### Legal fee backdown

The Lord Chancellor has agreed to withdraw his plans for "no win, no fee" arrangements for divorcing couples who are fighting over property or money.... Page 6 patch up palace feuds..... Page 19

#### Fraud claim dropped

Two women who told police that Mohammed Sarwar had urged them to falsify their electoral registration forms withdrew their allegations as they faced the Labour

#### **Euthanasia** inquiry

Fresh allegations of "backdoor euthanasia" in Britain's hospitals 

#### Georgian is ideal

The 1990s dream home is a fourbedroom Georgian house set in a couple of acres in the West Country costing up to £500,000, according to Country Life ...... Page 9

#### Lewinsky must testify Monica Lewinsky and two presidential advisers must testify in person before the Senate, senators insisted, after blocking an attempt to scrap the trial of Presi-

dent Clinton.....

Rain hampers rescue Heavy rain and intermittent after shocks hampered rescue operations in Colombia's earthquake struck Andean coffee-growing heartland where more than 2,000 are feared dead .... ......Page 18

#### Abdication rumours

Amid rumours of a possible abdication for health reasons by King Hussein, his ruling family struggled to boost support for the new Crown Prince Abdullah and to

#### Welsh cowboy line-dances to fame

A teenager from South Wales has stomped his way to victory in the world line-dancing championships, defeating America's leading Country and Western dancers on their home ground. Accompanied by his mother, Lynda, Chris Brocklesby, 17, travelied from Lianelli to Texas to compete against hundreds of championship-winning line-dancer:



The Princess Royal, President of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, at a luncheon with carers from the Manchester region yesterday

#### FINESHESS ...

Economy: Britain's trade deficit reached a ten-year high in November at £2.2 billion, figures showed ....Page 27 Society fined: Liverpool Victoria,

the friendly society, was fined £900,000 by the Personal Investments Authority for failing to control its salesmen ... ... Page 27 Old Mutual: The life assurance company became the latest major South African business to move to London, giving a windfall to 1.5 mil-

lion black customers in South Africa and Zimbabwe, many of them living in poverty...... ..... Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 9.3 to 5876.4. The pound fell 0.74 cents to \$1.6522 but rose 0.12p against the euro to 69.63p. The sterling index rose to 100.3..... Page 30

#### Football: West Ham signed Paolo Di Canio from Sheffield Wednesday and Mare-Vivien Foe from Lens for a combined fee of around £6 million... Page 52

Tennis: Monica Seles crushed Steffi Graf 7-5. 6-1 in the quarter-finals of the Australian Open, the most complete defeat that Graf could remember... Page 50

Cricket: Graeme Hick has been playing international cricket since 1991. His Test security is a long way off but in one-day cricket he is making himself indispensable. Page 49 Bryant's Eye: One of the first visits by a visiting member of the International Olympic Committee to an "Olympic venue" was to the sleepy little Shropshire town of Much Wenlock.

Cinema 1: Tom Stoppard's comic Bardic film (see below) features a reconstruction of the Rose Theatre at Bankside. Now the happy ending to the story of the real Rose can be Cinema 2: The week's new movies reviewed, from Shakespeare in

Love to the squelchy emotions of the divorce saga Stepmom ..... Page 37 Women's stuff: Our male reviewer endures a weird night at The Vagina Monologues in Islington. Plus The Starving Brides in Hammer-Johnny Vegas .....

Prize picture: The Spencer painting Zacharias and Elizabeth has been bought for the nation for £1.1 million - well worth it, says Richard

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

MEDIA

Stories behind

photographs

a job for

short-service

commissions?

the year's great

**EDUCATION** 

Teacher shortages:

lold, Northern Ireland; sunny spells, slight risk of showers. Fresh NW wind, Max 9C (48F)

SW, NW & NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argylk sunny spells and scattered showers. Fresh to strong NN wind. Mar, SC (46F)

Dr Thomas Stuttaford: A new asthma drug; eyedrops for glaucoma that reduce the need for surgery; pills for cholesterol Page 20 Quaking child: As Colombia tries to grapple with disaster, Martin Barrow recalls the earthquake that hit Peru in 1970 ... .... Page 21

Best buys: Cycle away for Valentine's; masked balls at the Venice Carnival; a week in Jamaica or Barbados for less than £500 Page 35

Reviews: Erica Wagner charts our obsession with depression and chemical cures; David Stafford tries to unravel wartime secrets; Natasha Fairweather journeys to eastside Russia.... \_\_\_\_Pages 40, 41

Even by the standards of Middle Eastern politics, it has been a tumultinous week. Former Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai has been engaged in a war of words after being sacked by Prime Minister Binjamin Netanyahu. On the other side of the River Jordan, King Hussein announced that he was replacing his brother, Prince Hassan, as heir to the throne of the Hashemite Kingdom and appointing his son Prince Abdullah. Both moves have long-term consequences for the Middle East and the viability of the peace process.

daymakers. Review: Joe Joseph wonders whether all bailiffs are my-.. Pages 50, 51

Preview: Was It Good For You? (Channel 5) spies on naturist holi-

#### Killing rage

Now there is a settlement in Northern Ireland. And still no peace. There are embryo cross-border bodies and potential places for Sinn Fein on an executive. Why is there still tolerance of terror?......Page 23

#### The Aden link

The Government is torn between diplomatic imperatives to ensure the capture and sentencing of those responsible for the December killings while protecting the rights of the five men whose implication appears, on preliminary evidence, to be inescapable.....

#### Ready-made poli tax

The Government's Bill creating a new Food Standards Agency had no reason to be controversial. Amazingly, the Government has contrived to convert this simple passport to popularity into a complicated document that will rightly be fiercely contested .....

#### ANATOLE KALETSKY

What has been really heartening about the recent spate of big industrial restructurings is that so many have failed. British companies seem finally to have acquired enough self-confidence to call the bluff of foreign bidders...... Page 22

#### PETER STOTHARD

Basil Bunting of The Times? It did not sound very likely. His name does not appear in the official history and ours is a paper which, from Thackeray to Graham Greene, has prized its literary sons ...... Page 22

#### **GEORGE BRIDGES**

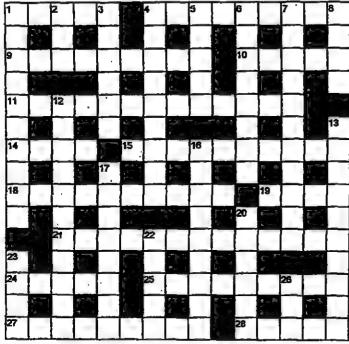
Yesterday saw the emergence of a hit squad to tackle the scourge of failing sandwiches, the Food Standards Agency. Yet there is an even greater peril to public safety than dodgy prawns Page 22

Rear-Admiral Sir Leslie Townsend, KCVO, CBE, Defence Services Secretary, Jack Carter, choreographer...

UK's arms trade; Snape Maltings; The Japan Times | Viagra: wigs for judges .... Page 23

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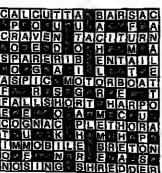
#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,012



#### ACROSS

- I High-ranking lady, for instance, is introduced to tramp (5). 4 Disorganised fellow loses head
- 9 Artiste unsettled in Texas she leaves (9). 10 Sweet old boy retired with hon-
- 11 Engage in controversy, and appear among best-sellers? (5,3,5).
- 14 Henry joins President for a walk
- 15 Ringleader has to shout love out to the sky (10). 18 Entomological specimen left in case, specially displayed (4-6).
- 19 Long journey starts to tire rather excited kids (4).
- 21 Wasp, perhaps, disturbing an organic meal (5-8).

#### Solution to Puzzle No 21.011

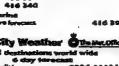


- 24 Set commercial in South American city (5).
- Ablutions at Longleat? (9). Work to make something of deal,
- Get right inside without feeling fear (5). DOWN
- 1 Wife of man who likes to gamble and drink (6.4).
- Talk idly, and hang up (3). 3 Silver found in lake in small quan-
- tities (6). 4 Severity of gear worn by mum!
- 5 Two fairies appearing intermina-bly as part of video display (5).
- 6 A doctor (American) he is needed for sudden attacks (8). 7 Compare this with change of air
- 8 13 animals (4).
- 12 Get the bird to peep (4.1,6). 13 Unreliable person, bankrupt, ini-
- tially really in want (6,4). 16 Relating to movement in train
- and car (9). 17 Agonised? About to identify the
- problem (8).
- 20 Soldiers reprimanded what a błoomeri (6).
- 22 Go round and round, then run a little (5). 23 Reptile caught gigantic bird (4).

26 Wool-producers said to provide

such employment (3).

Times Two Crossword, page 52



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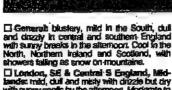
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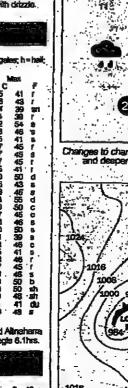
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IDE & NE England: cool and blustery with surny breaks and coastal showers. Fresh NW wind. Max 8C (46F)

D'Orkney, Shetland: showery rain and sleet. Ught to moderate E wind. Max 5C (41F) U Irlah Republic: cloudy, occasional rain or drazzle. Fresh NW wind. Max 11C (52F) D Channel Islands, 5W England, Walest mild and msty, chazle at times. Fresh NW wind. Max 12C (54F) Ci Outbook: sunnler and much bolder, over-night frost by Saturday; Scotland and Northern Ireland turning cloudy and mild with drizzle.

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# INSIDE SECTION



**BUSINESS** 

Graham Searjeant on Blair and the laws of economics PAGE 31



**ARTS** 

Cristina Ortiz brings passion to the piano **PAGES 36-39** 



**SPORT** 

**Ruthless Seles** grinds Graf into Melbourne dust **PAGES 44-52** 

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**BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft** 

THURSDAY JANUARY 28 1999

Chancellor's own guidelines leave him 'little scope' for radical Budget changes

# Slowdown cuts Brown's options

CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN WILL have "little scope" for radical Busiet changes because the economic slowdown has left him barely able to meet his own borrowing guidelines, a tank claimed yesterday.

However, the annual Instiinte for Fiscal Studies/Goldman Sachs Green Budget forecasts that the Chancellor may finally introduce the long-awaited 10p tax band — al-

though he will need to make other tax increases to fund it. The warning came as new data showed that Britain's trade deficit with non-EU countries reached record proportions last year when the fi-nancial crises in Asia and Rus-sia exacted a hig toll of the

county's export performance.

Economists claimed that the deteriorating trade balance is now likely to act as a significant drag on economic growth this year and the Bank of England will need to cut rates. again to try to compensate.

David Walton, UK economist at Goldman Sachs, told the Green Budget launch that although interest rates should fall to 5 per cent by the end of this year, this would not prevent the economy "flirting with recession.

Growth is expected to fall to

just 0.4 per cent this year, re-sulting in higher social security spending and lower tax re-ceipts than the Government is currently forecasting. As a re-sult, the Chancellor will have "very little margin for error" on his borrowing rules. "There is no case for significant fiscal adjustments in either direction,"

tightening would prolong the economic slowdown while a giveaway budget would breach the borrowing rules. The IFS added that if Mr Brown uses the Budget to introduce the 10p tax starting rate, he would look for other measures, such as the

abolition of mortgage interest relief, to fund it. The alternative would be to abolish the existing 20p rate of tax and introduce the 10p rate over a smaller band to ensure it has a neutral impact. The IFS calculates that this could be achieved if the 10p band is

£880 of taxable income.

The trade figures showed that the December non-EU trade gap narrowed only slightly to £1.65 billion, leaving the whole year deficit at a record £15.7 billion, double that of 1997. The November global trade gap also widened to £2.18 billion from £1.62 billion the previous month, while the quarterly deficit registered £6.4 billion — the highest figure in nearly ten years.

Analysts said the poor trade performance will reduce GDP by up to 0.75 percentage points

by cutting rates in an effort to stimulate domestic demand.

Eddie George, the Governor, confirmed that the Bank will consider this strategy, telling the House of Lord's Monetary Affairs Select Committee on countries will have to consider cutting rates to compensate for the poor global trade outlook. Dharshini David, UK econo-

mist at HSBC, said: "With external demand clearly deteriorating, the monetary policy committee may well attempt to stimulate domestic demand by

quarter point next week." Analysts said the economic problems in Asia and Russia seem to have damaged exports more than the strong pound. While the deficit with non-EU

year deficit with EU countries. In value terms, exports to South-East Asia fell 27 per cent in the year to December, while the value of imports from the region rose by 3 per cent. Exports to Russia also slumped by a quarter.

countries stands at record levels, there is likely to be only a marginal increase in the full-

# Liverpool Victoria fined £900,000

By CAROLINE MERRELL

\$300,000 by the Personal Inestment Authority (PIA). It must also pay compensation, estimated at £10 million.

The society failed to keep proper records of the sales it made, failed to recruit salespeople with adequate training, and failed to keep up with regllatory changes introduced to protect customers.

The PIA censure comes amid rumours about a rift between Roy Hurley, the chief ex-ecutive, and Andrew Noble,

TOP TEN FINES : LEVIED BY THE PIA £900,000 £525,000

chairman, after two years of turnoil within the society. Liverpool Victoria has been trying to find a strategic direction faced with increasing regulatory costs and narrowing profit margins on its core business

of thing savings schemes to those on low income. Liverpool Victoria yesterday stimated that it could be forced to pay compensation of £10 million to 50,000 customers that may have been missold ten-year endowment sav-

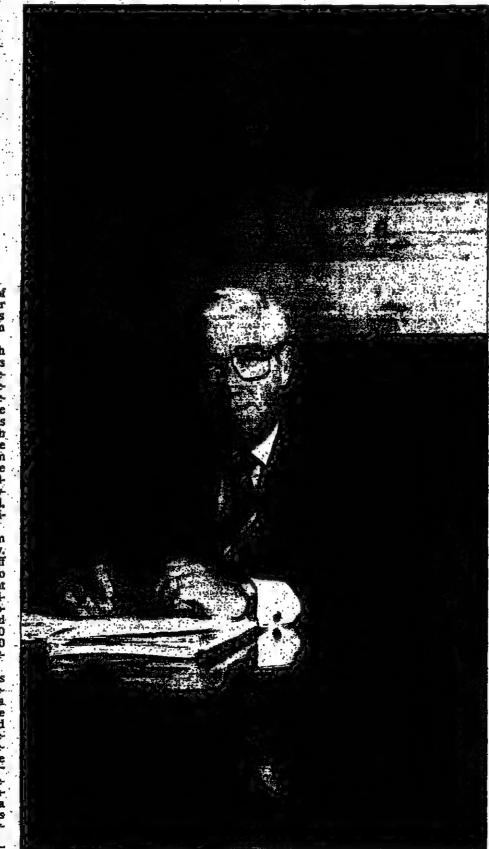
IVERPOOL VICTORIA, the weeks after the departure of David Cheeseman, the former based of the biggest friendly society. David Cheeseman, the former based of the b recruited three years ago from Prudential Corporation.

The friendly society, which has two million policyholders and 15 billion under management, claims that it wants to remain both mutual and independent. However, the fine and the problems it reveals pave the way for an approach from a bidder. The balance sheet benefits from El billion of extra assets that do not have to be distributed to policyholders. United Insurance and Royal London, another neutoal, have both been tipped as possi-

Mr Hurley, recruited from the AA to revitalise the society. admitted last year that its staff had been stretched "almost to breaking point", as it went through an extensive reorganisation and retraining programme. The review ended with the departure of all but 50 of its salesman, and 450 agents responsible for collect-

ing premiums door-to-door. Mr Hurley said: This has been a difficult and painful period for the Liverpool Victoria. Group. It is encouraging to see that the PIA has recognised the amount of effort and resource that has been and is being invested to ensure we are fully compliant for the future.

Mr Hurley trained as an accountant before joining the in-surance industry, and, as a former Barnado's boy, believes he has an affinity with the Liverpool Victoria client base.



Roy Hurley said that staff had been stretched almost to breaking point during reorganisation

### The fine is imposed just Old Mutual move to benefit black policyholders

MORE than 1.5 million black policy-holders with Old Mutual, the South African life insurer, will receive a windfall worth one year's average salary when the company demotualises and a joins the London stock market

Half of the 3.2 million beneficiaries of the demutualisation, announced yes-terday, are from the black middle class and live in South Africa and Zimbabwe. The distribution of about 300 shares per member, worth about \$400. is likely to have a significant effect on

the local economy.

Old Mutual is the latest in a line of established South African businesses to announce they intend to relocate their beadquarters to London. The company confirmed vesterday it had been granted permission from the South African Finance Ministry to demutualise.

The company said the windfall would be a significant contribution towards black economic empowerment. The life insurer, whose origins date back to 1845, is likely to join the FTSE 100 soon after its stock market debut

and could be worth up to £4 billion.
Old Mutual's decision to decamp follows moves by South African Breweries and Anglo American Corporation, the mining and industrial company. Both are due to shift base in March. Listing in London gives South African groups access to cheaper capital,

which the company said it intended to

use to buy businesses specialising in as-

set management and savings products.

### Bumper £730,000 payoff for Sears finance director

By Sarah Cunningham

DAVID DEFTY, the finance director of Sears, is in line for a bumper payout of nearly £730,000 following the take-over of the retail group by January In-vestments, the company backed by David and Frederick Barclay and run by Philip Green.

According to the final offer docu-ment, sent to Sears's shareholders last night, Mr Defty was paid £55,000 as a discretionary performance-related bonus on Monday. He is also to be paid a loyalty borus of £220,000 by April 30, and he will be paid a further £453,410 in connection with the severance of his two-year contract. Mr Defty joined the company in 1994 and was on an annual salary of £220.000

Roger Groom, the property director,

is the only other director who has agreed severance terms so far, according to the document. He will receive a payoff of £268,368, plus a contribution of £50,000 into the company pension scheme. Mr Groom was also on a two-year contract and was on a salary of

Sir Bob Reid, chairman of Sears, is to stay on the board for a period following the takeover, as is Lord Tebbit, a non-executive director, in order to look after the interests of minority share-

January Investments declared yesterday that it now owns 72.6 per cent of Sears. The 359p a share offer, which values the company at £548 million, closes on Rebruary 19.

# GRE chief to argue against auction offers

By Jason Nisse

JOHN ROBINS, chief executive of Guardian Royal Exchange, is to present a case for rejecting all offers for the insurer to the board tomorrow, arguing that a break-up of the company by existing management could raise £3.7 billion.

The board is to consider the final offers by at least three bidducted by Morgan Stanley, the investment bank.

Royal & SunAlliance, is leading the race with an offer of £3.4 billion or 390p a share. This offer is a mixture of cash and RSA shares and would be almost certain to be referred to the the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Eureko, a consortium of six European mutual insurers, including Friends Provident, has offered 385p a share in cash. Though the bid is

backed by Chase Manhattan, the US bank, there is concern whether the consortium has enough cash to deliver on its offer, having failed to win the battle to buy GAN, the French group, last year. Axa, the French insurer, has

bid 370p a share, but is only likely to win GRE if all the oti-

Mr Robins, advised by HSBC Investment Bank, is understood to believe that the best value for GRE is to sell off the parts of the group to the highest bidders. Prudential Corporation is understood to be keen on the US business while Axa is eager to buy the UK general nsurance operations.
HSBC says this route could

return 420p a share of value to GRE investors, nearly £300 million more than is on offer for any of the other bidders.

#### BUSINESS TODAY

Exchange rates ... \* denotes miciday trading prices

#### Robust Rock

Northern Rock is to launch a new home loan that will allow people to borrow more than 100 per cent of the value of a property in spite of giving a warning that the UK economy was headed for a "bumpy landing". Page 28

In demand

Powerscreen International, the engineering company based in Northern Ireland. received informal approaches from other companies as it recovered from disastrous accounting irregularities.

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# Emerging markets to cost banks £36bn

ECONOMICS EDITOR

BANKS faces losses of about \$60 billion (£36 billion) because of their exposure to volatile emerging markets, accoding to the Institute of International Finance (IIF).

The institute, which represents more than 300 financial institutions worldwide, yesterday urged private sector lenders to take urgent steps to

strengthen their risk analysis and risk management.

The turmoil in emerging markets forced many institutions to re-examine their risk management procedues rigorously, said John Bond, chairman of HSBC, who is also head of the IIF. The IIF is one of the few industry groups so far to have apportioned some of the blame for the financial crisis to the incompetence of lenders. Mr Bond said: "This is axiomatic

- both borrowers and lenders must do a better job in making sound deci-sions, if the problems of the past 18 months are not to be repeated."

in this context, an IIF working group yesterday suggested the devel-opment of a direct dialogue between country authorities and the private sector in crisis avoidance and for greater private sector involvement in

It said that mechanisms should be

put in place for regular and comprehensive consultation by sovereign borrowers with private sector creditors and investors in meetings and teleconferences. It cited the example of Mexico which, since 1996, has held quarterly briefings with market participants involving senior finance

ministry and central bank officials. The IIF said yesterday that net private capital flows to leading emerging market economies were expected

to total \$140 billion this year. This is a little lower than the \$150 billion in 1998 but much weaker than the \$260 billion of 1997.

However, it expects foreign direct investment to hold near to the 1998 total and predicted a recovery in portfolio equity flows to emerging markets to some \$19 billion from only \$2.4 billion in 1999. These properties lion in 1998. These two categories indicated a robust long-term confidence in emerging market economies.

Bob Bennett, left, finance director, Leo Finn and Adam Applegarth say the economy is headed for a bumpy landing

# Rock offers combined mortgage and loan

By RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

launch a new home loan that will allow people to borrow more than 100 per cent of the value of a property despite giving a warning that the UK economy was headed for a "bumpy landing". The former building society has set aside £3.1 million in the second half against any further deterioration in economic conditions.

The new home loan, dubbed Together and supported by a £1 million advertising campaign, bundles together a mortgage and a personal loan. Interest rates on 100 per cent mortgages are usually far higher than loans for 95 per cent or lower of a property's market value.

The general provision held annual profits to £202.6 million, a 7.6 per cent rise on 1997 but still at the lower end of the City's forecasts for Northern Rock's first full year as a quoted bank.

Net lending was unchanged at £1.8 billion, equivalent to an estimated market share of 7 per cent, more than double Northern Rock's historical share of mortgage stock. But the bank maintained these high volumes at the expense of profitability: the net interest margin fell to

1.70 per cent from 1.92 per cent. Adam Applegarth, executive director, said the decline in the net interest margin was offset by the growth in other income. Fixed interest rate mortgages - which accounted for 78 per

NORTHERN ROCK is to cent of business in 1998 compared with 57 per cent in the previous year — were less profitable, but the fees stemming from such deals were higher.

The bank said it would pay a final dividend of 8.1p per share, taking the total dividend to 12p, a rise of 14.3 per cent. The final dividend, payable on May 28, will be worth £40.50 to former members who kept hold of the basic 500-share distribution at conversion, and comes on top of an interim dividend worth £19.50. Northern Rock said it had 336,000 small shareholders, representing about 40 per cent of the total stock.

Leo Finn, chief executive, said he had detected no signs of a deterioration in credit quality; both arrears and possessions fell during the year. But he said the economy "was headed for a bumpy landing: we just don't know how bumpy", adding that falling interest rates might protect the housing market from the

worst of any decline. Mr Finn also said the bank was considering the securitisation of new mortgage business. This involves bundling together small loans and selfing them off in the bond markets. Northern Rock shares fell 30%p to 497%p yesterday.

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

Tempus, page 30

# merge with rival

BY ROBERT BRUCE

merge with rival Moores Rowland, creating an accountancy firm with annual fees of £150 noillion.

The new BDO Stoy Hay-ward will be the biggest firm in the UK outside the so-called 'Big Five' firms, ahead of Grant Thornton. Moores Rowland, whose

name will vanish after the March I merger date, was last year involved in a ten-month marathon effort to merge with the firm of Kidsons, which was finally called off in Octo-

BDO STOY HAYWARD is to ber. BDO is currently the UK's seventh largest accountancy firm, with 232 partners and some 2,000 staff in 35 offices. Moores Rowland has more than 80 partners and 600 staff.

The expectation is that the merger will trigger considerable and urgent consolidation among the remaining midtier firms, all of which are now some way adrift of both the enlarged BDO Stoy Hayward and Grant Thornton.

THE 總會 TIMES

CHANGING TIMES

Accountancy, page 32

### BDO poised to | London Electricity deal passed by EU

THE European Commission-has approved the £1.9 billion purchase of London Electricity by Electricité de France, disregarding the UK Government's claim that it should rule on the

The Government had wanted the Office of Fair Trading to adjudicate because it was worried that EdF already exports.

electricity to the UK. However, the European Commission waved the deal through yesterday. It said the takeover "would not materially affect competition" in the UK, despite the "vertical integration" of generator and supplier and that there was no need to refer it back to the.

A Department of Trade and Industry spokesman claimed that the Government was satisfied because Brussels said it could impose conditions on London's licence to make sure the supply business is clearly separated from the rest of EdF and that London does not end up striking contracts with EdE

generators.

#### Unit trust pricing to be simpler

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN

THE Financial Services Au-thority is allowing fund man-agers to simplify the pricing-structure of their unit trusts in an attempt to encourage new investors in the stock market. From next month, fund man-

agers will be free to replace the dual pricing system, which has confused investors for years. with simpler single pricing. The FSA's move also makes it easier for fund managers to fulfil the criteria for the Government's Cat (cost, access, terms) standard, which will be

when they replace personal eqthe risk is expected to make single pricing compulsory by 2001.

used to promote good value in-

dividual savings accounts

Dual pricing - in which investors are quoted separate of-fer and bid prices when they buy and sell units in a fund. has long been unpopular with the public as it is complex and has led to charges that some fund managers were using the method to hide their fees.

Under single pricing, investors will be quoted a single mid-price when they buy and sell. Dealing costs and management fees will be explicit.

#### **CGU** defies economic slowdown

By MARIANNE CURPHEY INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

CGU, the composite insurer, reported an 8 per cent rise in worldwide new business to £5.43 billion, despite volatile investment markets over the past year and the economic

slowdown. Although the figure was just under the £5.52 billion expected by analysts, CGU shares rose 291/2p to 8761/2p after good results from the UK. The Netherlands and Italy were unveiled.

New worldwide annual

premiums rose II per cent to £441 million, while single premium sales were 4 per cent higher at £4.4 billion. Sales of retail investment products such as personal equity plans (Peps) and unit trusts rose 48 per cent to £602 million.

CGU said that applica-tions for Peps in the first week of 1999 were up 40 per cent on the same period last year. This reflects retail demand for Peps in the last financial year they will be available to savers before they are replaced by the individual savings account (Isa).

Tempus, page 30

### Sega dreams of £260m bond issue

THE CRAZE for computer games showed no sign of abating yesterday as more than 35 City fund mangers turned up to the launch of a 50 billion yen (£260 million) bond issue by Sega, the Japanese video games giant. The move comes amid a boom for computer games and consoles, with machines not as likely to be bought by trendy clubbers in their mid-twe as itself you be bought by trendy clubbers in their mid-twe as itself you be bought by trendy clubbers in their mid-twe as itself you be bought by trendy clubbers in their mid-twe for the launch of its new high-tech Dreamcast games console, which offers high-quality graphics and internet access.

Sega hopes that the Dreamcast will finally end the reign of Sony's PlayStation, and severely dent sales of the Nintendo

Sony's PlayStation, and severely dent sales of the Nintendo 64. However, both Sony and Nimendo are also expected to launch new consoles in the near future. Both machines are expected to be as powerful as the Dreamcast. The Dreamcast, which follows Sega's Mega Drive and Saturn consoles, will be launched in Britain later this year. The consoles are expected to cost under £200 each. Representatives from institutions including Merrill Lynch and Prudential turned up to the launch, managed by Normura. The bonds will be convertible and have a maturity of four years.

### Paperchase stake sold

BORDERS, the acquisitive US bookshop chain, has taken a 19.9 per cent in Paperchase, the stationery company spun off from WH Smith almost three years ago. The company said that Paperchase has concessions in Books Etc. The deal is expected to lead to a full £5 million takeover of Paperchase, which would make millions of pounds for Timothy Melgund its managing director. Borders is understood to have partial about £1 million for the stake — the same amount that Mr-Melgund's team bought the entire company for in June 1996.

#### Comstrad chief's ban

A SOFTWARE expert, whose company sold computer programmes purporting to guarantee success in gambling, has been banned from being a director for 13 years. Kevin John Robinson, from Queensland, Australia, ran Comstrad, which was wound up on October 2, 1996, with debts of £457,233, not including customer claims for rebates. The High Court found that Comstrad made serious misrepresentations about its products and that Mr Robinson approved unsecured loans totalling E250,000 to connected companies with reckless disregard for other creditors.

powers c

#### **Games Workshop falls**

SHARES of Games Workshop, the toy, model and science-fiction games specialist, yesterday fell 11 per cent from 445p to 39716p as the company admitted that sales had been "below our own high standard". The company reported an 8.2 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the six months to November 29 of £5.2 million on sales of £35.5 million, up 12 per cent. Earnings per share were 10.9p. up 7.9 per cent from 10.1p. An interim dividend of 3.56p, up from 3.3p. will be paid on April 6.

#### Kingfisher shares soar

SHARES of Kingfisher surged yesterday after Castorama, its separately quoted DIY joint venture, said that sales rose 145 per cent during 1998. Castorama Dubois Investissements, which is quoted on the Paris bourse and contains B&Q as well as France's Castorama chain, said that on a comparable group basis and at constant exchange rates, sales were up 11.7 per cent to Fr24.1 billion. B&Q became part of Castorama on December 18. Kingfisher owns 55 per cent of Castorama, and the British company's shares rose 42p to 628p.

#### Conoco hit by losses

CONOCO, the oil company, yesterday reported a fourth-quarter 1998 net loss of \$263 million (£158 million) or 42 cents per share, in its the first stand-alone result since spinning of from DuPont. This compares with a \$221 million net profi last time. For the full year, Conoco's net profit fell to \$450 millione, after \$271 million in charges, from \$1.029 billion the previous year. Conoco's demerger from DuPont was accompanied by a \$4.4 billion initial public offering of shares that was

### Mobil earnings plunge

MOBIL, the oil and gas company, has highlighted the pain in the oil sector with a 48 per cent plunge in 1998 net earnings to \$1.7 billion (£1,03 billion). The result was made worse by an exceptional charge of \$651 million in the fourth quarter, stem ming from a writedown in the value of its oil reserves. Operat ing profit in the final three months was \$499 million, 38 pe cent lower than for the previous corresponding period. Earn ings per share for the year slumped to \$2.12 a share, down from \$4.10 previously.

#### Drug launch lifts BTG

SHARES of BTG, the company that commercialises intellectual property, recovered 25p to 310p yesterday thanks to the European launch of a treatment for haemophilia B. Baxter Healthcare of the US is promoting BeneFix, developed by Ge netics Institute, which relied on technology rights assembled by BTG. Ian Harvey, chief executive, said US sales of Bene-Fix over the past two years had been well above expectation and BTG hopes to earn substantial revenues from the drug. BeneFix tackles a defect in a blood-clothing protein.

#### Ashbourne deal

ASHBOURNE PHARMACEUTICALS, the supplier to dispensing doctors, has been valued at £32 million in a deal that will see HSBC Private Equity take a substantial stake. Ashbourne was founded in 1984 by Dallas Burston, chief executive and previously the sole shareholder. Dr Burston said HSBC's backing endorses Ashbourne's position as the premier provider to a sector that represents 16 per cent of the pre-scription-only medicines written by general practitioners. Barclays provided bank finance for the deal

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# Hopes for British Biotech on back of giant US deal

By PAUL DURMAN

THE beleaguered biotechnology industry has been given a shot in the arm by Warner-Lambert, the American drugs group that is paying \$2.1 bil-lion (£1.3 billion) to acquire Agouron Pharmaceuticals of

The deal is one of the largest purchases of a biotech firm by "big pharma", and has impli-cations for British Biotech, the former flagship of the UK sector, whose cancer drug is similar to one of Agouron's most

Like British Brotech's Mari-

a matrix metalloproteinase in- ; drug and doubts about the dehibitor, an important new class of cancer drugs that aim to stop turnours spreading.
Nick Woolf, analyst with
BancBoston Robertson Steph-

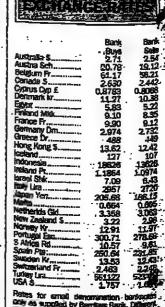
ens, said: "It's got to be good news for British Biotech." Others saw the Warner-Lambert move as a validation of the Oxford firm's technology platform. Shares in British Biotech

slipped to a new low of 23p yesterday. Marimastat is about a year ahead of AG-3340, but British Biotech's credibility has been shredded by the overmastat, Agouron's AG-3340 is blown claims made for its

sign of its clinical trials. Unlike UK biotech compa-

nies, Agouron is already profitable thanks to sales of Viracept, its \$500 million-a-year HIV drug that is the most prescribed protease inhibitor in the US. Warner-Lambert is paying

about \$60 a share, or three times Agouron's 12-month low. Peter Laing, analyst at SG Securities, suggested Agouron's decision to sell out to Warner-Lambert represented an acknowledgement that biotech companies could not make it on their own



ordon Brown is walking a tight rope. The Chancellor may be dainty on his feet, but he may soon wish that he had allowed himself the luxury of a safety net — just in case.

He may still enjoy a soft landing, but it is no certainty. The institute of Fiscal Studies has been doing its calculations in order to

offer him a little pre-Budget ad-vice and it finds him with peril-ously little room for manoeuvre. The budget surplus that our Chancellor has been aiming for:
ir as far as the IFS can see, a mirage. While Mr Brown can see
£33 billion building up in his coffers by 2004, the IFS fears that,
by the time was the rest by the time we get there, the safe-

will be empty.

This does not amount to the "Black Hole" that critics spotted as soon as the self-proclaimed. prudent Chancellor started prom-ising to dole out public money with unusual generosity, but it does come perilously close. Yes-terday's dismal trade figures show just how easy it would be for him — and the country — to

stumble into the abyss.

The problems in Asia are, inevitably, taking their toll on Britain, Only an optimist — and perhaps Mr Brown is one, although it has not been particularly ap-parent before — would be confident that the worst of the Asian crisis is over. Only an optimist I hald bank on the United States economy continuing to soar, pulling Britain in its wake.

# Brown on the edge of an abyss

were the almost inevitable result

thinking about revolutionising

the way that pensions are provid-ed in this country, put much store on the role that friendly soci-

eties might be able to play. He

saw in them organisations of benevolent rather than venal in-tent, playing a responsible part in their communities.

Liverpool Victoria may once have seen itself in just that light, but ideas had clearly changed by the time its direct selling force was knocking on the doors of people with little cash to spare and

persuading them to buy expensive products that would enrich

the salesmen and the society but

not the customers.

Its uncertainty about its role had become apparent when it paid heavily for Prizzell, an or-

ganisation with a very different

cultural background, and then al-

lowed its identity to frizzle away. The PIA was horrified by the

Frank Field, when he was

of its confusion.

Mr Brown now seems to have such optimism forced upon him, if he is to stick by his forceasts. But, while he may bravely stick to his predictions when he heads to the despatch box in March, he will surely feel constrained against digging any further mio a surplus that may be non-existent. The Budget is likely, therefore, to be short on hand-outs:

fore, to be short on hand-outs:

There are still some who expect him to fulfil his wish to bring in a lop tax rate. If so, it will have to be paid for and there must be a strong possibility that MIRAS will foot the bill. Doing away with mortgage tax relief, even in a phased way, is a perfectly logical step and will be less painful for homebuyers now that interest rates have been brought down.

But tax relief on mortgages has an emotional impact way beyond its fiscal value: it is a totem of the middle classes. Mr Blair's determination that Labour must win the votes of the middle classes. would not be furthered by such a move. Woking man has been encouraged to believe in the merits of home ownership and would probably not be enamoured of a government that appeared to stop encouraging it.



# COMMENTARY by our City Editor

In the next few weeks Mr Brown will be on the receiving end of suggestions from numer ous organisations about what he should produce from his Budget box. The only ones he is likely to want to hear are those that are either fiscally neutral or have a chance of bolstering the Govern-

Mr Prescott's plans for taxing car-parking spaces could be in for a revival.

Where next for the friendly society?

The Liverpool Victoria is not going to be broken by a 1900,000 fine, even if it is the largest to have been demanded by the regulator. Yet the future of what appears to have been a far-front friendly friendly society now looks far from certain.

This is an organisation that has lost its way and the cata-logue of misdeeds it committed

way that the Liverpool Victoria way that the Liverpool Victoria ran its business. Just like the Prudential, from where, ironically, its compliance office had come, the Liverpool Victoria was not sending out an army of kindly gentlemen with the best interests of their regular customers at heart. Instead, it was letting loose a battalion of hungry commission-seekers.

Such beings do not easily re-

محدر من رالام

Such beings do not easily re-spond to being retrained, so the Liverpool Victoria has scythed back its direct selling force. But where does it go next?
Its orphan assets of at least El

billion, and maybe as much as £2 billion, may make it look attractive to others in the insurance industry. But to customers, Liverpool Victoria has surely destroyed much of its heritage. It has certainly moved a very long way from the vision that Frank Field appeared to have.

But then, the Government too has moved away from Mr Field's ideas. Now, as it bombards us

with plans for various pension and savings schemes, the main providers remain destined to be the major financial institutions, many of whom have now had their wrists slapped for misselling. They may have learnt-their lesson, but the regulators would do well not to bank on it.

#### Oasis in Christmas trading desert

he effort to turn WH Smith into a go-go stock continues. Yesterday the company was beasting that its Internet book sales in December were up a whopping 170 per cent, Sadly, the reality is still a few volumes short of a library: Internet sales since September were just £1.7 million. For a company that last year had sales of more than £2.7 billion, the effect on the bottom line is going to be hard to spot. But Smith cannot be blamed

for trying to look on the bright side when the reality was less ex-citing. Sales grew by 2 per cent over Christmas, but the store space had been increased by 1 per cent. When you come down from the Web to reality, life on the high street remains difficult.

Yet there are still those who can defy the gloom. Kingfisher shares bounded ahead yesterday as the company revealed that en-thusiasm for le DIY is generat-ing double-figure sales growth in

its French business, Castorama. Oasis, too, had good news to re-port, with sales up more than 20 per cent overall, or 11 per cent stripping out the contribution from new stores. The company had the clothes that fashion-conscious customers wanted and held its nerve to ensure that it sold as many as possible at full price. Most retailers have now

owned-up to how they fared over Christmas, but since they opt to report on trading periods vary-ing from weeks to many months. comparisons are almost mean-ingless. Oasis, however, looks like a clear winner.

#### Surefooted Swiss

THE Zurich stock exchange has 57 members but, like Heinz, does not intend to stop at that number. The exchange is keen to recruit London members and has made a fine start with its flattering assertion that London will remain the financial centre of Europe. It is now seems safe to say that the City has adapted almost seamlessly to the demands of euro-trading, despite being out-side euroland. Presumably, the careful Swiss just wanted to be sure before they launched their recruitment drive.

# Powerscreen reveals informal approaches

POWERSCREEN internation-al, the engineering company to investigate whether it had based in Northern ireland, re-grounds to sue KPMG or ceived informal approaches from other companies as it recovered from disastrous accounting irregularities.

Powerscreen, the share price of which collapsed after t admitted the crisis last year. said the contact never constituted takeover talks and therefore did not require a Stock Exhange statement.

Brian Kearney, the new chief executive, said "Over the past 12 months, there have been various discussions with people of all types."

Mr Kearney was presenting gating the irregularities.

Mr Kearney was presenting gating the irregularities.

Mr Kearney was presenting gating the irregularities.

On. Its disposal property on the disposal property of the d over as auditor from KPMG.

Powerscreen instructed Her-

three former directors - Shay McKeown, Pat Dooey and Barry Cosgrove - over the irregu-larities at its former Maibro subsidiary.

The "black hole" meant Matbro lost E61 million in 1997/1998 instead of a budget

ed Ell million profit. It is thought that Power-screen is looking closely at using arbitrators rather than the courts for any settlement, in an attempt to clear the matter up as quickly as possible. The Serious Frand Office is investi-

Powerscreen itself as a result of the problems.

He said the company's dealer network in the US had remained strong, despite the tur-moil. Many of the US dealers were, or are, personal friends of the three departed directors,

said Mr Craig. Confidence in the US was also strengthened by the federal Government's commitment to an expanded road building programme, which could provide opportunities for its rock

crushing equipment.

Mr Kearney said Powerscreen was no longer in a costly standstill arrangement with its banks. It now has a total facility of £36.25 million to draw on. Its disposal programme meant net debt is now about EI4.1 million, down from £53.4

Powerscreen had to pay a

period to professional advis-ers, including lawyers, ac-countants and public relations consultants, to clear up the ac-counting mess, which Mr Craig has likened to a field full of Powerscreen tractors going missing. The company has paid about £5.5 million in fees so far. It expects the final bill

to reach about £7 million. Powerscreen made profits of £7.4 million before tax, on sales of £1475 million. Earnings per share were 6.53p. Accurate comparisons with the previous year are not possible because of the accounting

No interim dividend will be paid. Powerscreen shares closed at 12145p, a fall of 445p

Tempus, page 30

#### **Pilkington** eases fears over Brazil

SHARES in Pilkington, the glassmaker, rose yesterday after it put a figure on its exposure in Brazil, easing investors' fears (Adam Jones

Pilkington said the 35 per cent fall in the value of the Brazilian real would reduce its working capital in Brazil by £15 million.

It has plate glass manufac-turing activities there as well as plants to convert the glass into car windscreens or building products.
One analyst said Pilkington would be able to use the

devaluation to its advantage by exporting in US dollars. Pilkington also confirmed that results for the first nine months of the year were "in line with management's ex-

pectations" when measured at constant exchange rates. 148p last May, rose 3p to 54p.

### Capital shares sink as it calls off bid talks

BY DOMINIC WALSH

SHAREHOLDERS of Capital Corporation, the London casino operator, saw their hopes of hitting the jackpot dashed yet again yesterday as the company called a halt to talks with potential bidders.

in a statement, the group said that, in the absence of any formal or indicative offers at a high enough level, it had decided to "end the period of uncertainty by ceasing all discus-

sion". It added: "The company no longer considers itself to be in an offer period."

Its shares slid 5%p lower to 54p — valuing the group at just £55 million — compared to the 100p-a-share investors had been hoping for after its anhad received a number of ap-

It is also a far cry from the £180 million bid from London Clubs International in February 1997 which was rejected by Capital and eventually blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commis-

The list of suitors this time around is believed to have in-cluded a management buyout led by David Gray, its casinos and development director, and joint move by Ladbroke and

Peter McNally, its former joint managing director, is also thought to have held talks with the board.

Capital's three casinos Crockford's, the Colony Club and the Cromwell Mint - are nouncement in October that it currently suffering from the scarcity of Asian and Middle Eastern high-rollers.

#### WHS sees book sales grow 5%

WH SMITH has started to claw back its share of the book market, with sales growing by 5 per cent in the shops and by 70 per cent through its Internet divi-

sion (Fraser Nelson writes). The company, which became Europe's largest name in online bookselling when it bought The In-ternet Bookshop in June, said sales through the In-

ternet are now £1.7 million. The company has said it will be launching its Internet package in the spring. Overall, like-for-like sales growth was 1 per cent in the 19 weeks to January

9, in line with expectations. This accelerated to 2 per cent during the last nine weeks, but will still be sharply behind the 6 per cent growth achieved in

Christmas 1997/8 Commentary, this page



Lessons learnt Dominic Lavelle, right, with Michael Bennett, the chairman

# Oasis back in fashion, but profits may suffer

OASIS, the women's fashion chain that admitted to a series of retailing mistakes last year. has claimed a successful recovery with underlying sales up if per cent over Christmas [See Commentary, this page]. lange were up 21 per cent after it gave up experimenting with new lines and stocked up on

Dominic Lavelle, finance director, said: "We had one bad season where there was too much breadth and not enough depth in the range. We've learnt the lessons from last year, and applied them."

ing to shift much of its De-cember and January range, and that its profits suffered as a result.

The City thinks this may mean about £1 million in lost profits, and analysts downgraded year-end profits to £13.2 million (£14.2 million). The shares were unchanged

The figures - for the 25 weeks to January 23 - took in a flat December but a sharp rise in January. Mr La-velle said that the company

had to rely on heavy discount-

ed nationalised company.

The partial privatisation will leave the state with a stake of about 63 per cent, although this will fall to about 53 per cent by 2003 after the distribution of free shares. M Strauss-Kahn has ruled out further

#### Air France poised for cut-price sell-off

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THE French Government yes-terday launched the privatisa-tion of Air France with an admission that it would recoup less than a fifth of the money it has pumped into the stateowned carrier this decade.

The Finance Ministry hopes to raise between Fr3 billion (£319 million) and Fr4 billion. reducing the Government's holding from 94 per cent to just over 50 per cent. A tranche of about 17.91 per cent will be floated on the Paris bourse

The airline's implied value of between Fr15.35 billion and Fr18.16 billion is well below the figures proposed by banks advising on the sale. However, Air France's troubled history, punctuated by industrial action and heavy state handouts, means investors may be reluctant to subscribe for the

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the Finance Minister, hopes the price cut will persuade institutional investors to overcome their reticence at investing in what remains an indebt-

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# Incentive plan lights Luminar

BY DOMINIC WALSH

LUMINAR, the bar and nightchib opera-tor, has launched a series of employee in-To centive schemes that could allow management and staff to grab almost 20 per cent

of the company.

It said the proposals, which include share option schemes and incentive war-Tapp, were designed to tie in its best people also were fully supported by 43 per cent than bolder Mencury Asset Management. Luminar said the schemes were crucial

given that key executives in the industry

are being offered substantial equity-based

incentives". It added: "The proposals have been structured to motivate and reward key executives and employees, subject to

pre-set performance targets."

Including the share options granted at the time of Luminar's floration in 1996, the large of Luminar's floration in 1996, the various schemes could deliver 18.56 per cent of the company's share capital to its employees. Since flotation, its market capitalisation has grown from E30 million to almost E140 million.

The announcement of the incentives, which would crystallise should Luminar become subject to a takeover, raised a few eyebrows in the City, given that Luminar

has recently been linked to a possible bid from First Leisure Corporation. However, analysts believe Luminar is more likely itself to become the predator.

Lumsden, argues that Luminar would be better off launching a takeover of Northern Leisure, the nightclub operator. The two businesses would fit well together. They are both quality late-night operators in provincial towns and cities," he says. Northern Leisure's shares jumped 121/2p to 115kp yesterday, while Luminar gained

\* \* Worth buying ]



MICHAEL CLARK

# Pilkington strengthens despite crack in profits

THE devaluation of the Brazilian real has left a £15 million crack in profits at Pilkington, Britain's biggest glassmaker.

In spite of this, the shares rose 3p to 54p as another round of takeover speculation swept the market.

It has been a remarkable week for Pilkington which saw its shares hit a fresh low of 51p on Monday, as the market got wind that the collapse in the Brazilian currency was going to cost the company dearly. Brazil is one of its biggest markets. Despite the hit Charter-

house Tilney, the broker, is telling clients to "accumulate" and reckons the concerns over South America are having a disproportionate effect on the

By contrast, City specula-tors like to remind anyone who will listen that the group is vulnerable to a bid. BTR tried it back in the 1980s and failed. Anyone making a similar move now would have to pay only a fraction of the price. Brokers say Saint Gobain is fa-

vourite to make such a move. Share prices generally were never able to maintain their early pace with Wall Street also squandering an early mark-up. The FTSE 100 index. up 103 points at one stage, closed 9.3 down at 5.876.4. The FTSE 250 index climbed 46.5 to 4,903.3, buoyed by another

spate of takeover speculation. ICI was the best performer among the top 100 companies. iumping 451/2p to 5491/2p ahead of results next week that are expected to show another downturn in profitability. Traders are taking positions to see if the com-

pany maintains the dividend. Kingfisher was a firm market, adding 42p to 628p after another upbeat trading state-ment, and Reed International climbed 41%p to 571%p with traders linking it to the latest craze for Internet stocks.

There was a positive response to the latest trading statement from WH Smith with the price climbing 71/2p to 5971/p. Like-for-like growth during the key Christmas perioverall showed signs

strengthening.

Bruish Telecom dropped 26p to 917p as word went round that ABN Amro Hoare Govert, the broker, had been telling clients to switch into Vodafone, up 23p at £11.82½. Only last week, Hoare set a tar-



WH Smith saw a positive response to its latest trading statement with the share price climbing 71/2p to 5971/2p

Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, has joined the Pearson bandwagon and initiated coverage of the shares by setting a target price of £15. The price fell 10p to £13.81 after

hitting a high on Tuesday. The speculators were again giving chase in Laird Group with the price, 261/2p higher at 199p, closing below its best of

the day after touching 212%p.

There has been a rash of corporate activity among the auto-motive engineers this week with LucasVarity, 21/2p lighter at 2834p, facing the prospect of two US bidders, while Adwest Automotive has already accepted an offer of 150p a share from Dura Automotive of the US. The speculators claim Laird is being stalked by Fullarton.

another US automotive compo-

TURNING THE TAP 3300 3000 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec Jan Feb

THE water companies struggled to make headway in a falling market. Hyder rose 21/2p to 814p.

Thames lp to £10.80, and Yorkshire Water 2p to 5124:p. But there were losses for Anglian, 41/2p to 768p, and United Utilities, 8p to

Just over a year ago, the utilities were the darlings of the stock market. Their lucrative dividends and the constant flurry of corporate activity kept the pot boiling. investors are prepared to plough their money into telecoms, drug companies and financials. while the water companies

take a back seat. Credit Lyonnais Securities, the broker, remains upbeat. It says there is still

terference that has cast a shadow over the sector. Laing reckons the upside for the sector is about 25 per cent and tips both Anglian Water and United Utilities as the best stocks in the secnents group. Word is Fullar-ton would have to offer in ex-cess of 250p a share for the bid

Dr Alan Weeks, chairman of Weeks Group, has splashed out £675,000 acquiring 300,000 shares at 225p. It takes his holding to 38.1 million, or 26.67 per cent. The wife of direc-tor Peter Griffith has bought 225,000 shares at 225p. Weeks was unchanged at 21/p.

Peterhonse Group was steady at 107p, as David Jack-son, chairman, spent £216,000 topping up his stake. He has bought 20,000 shares at 108p. taking his total holding to 1.97 million, or 7.48 per cent. Philip Brierley, a director, has sold 100,000 shares at 107p, reduc-ing his stake to 1.07 million, or 4.07 per cent.

Elsewhere in the construction sector. Ashtead Group shaded up to 169p. Henry Staunton, a director, has acquired 25,000 shares at 171p. He now accounts for 45,000 shares, or less than I per cent.

Shares of Waste Recycling were suspended at 456p pending completion of the merger with Yorkshire Environmental Global Waste Management.

AIM-listed Systems Integraled Research seemed to enjoyed a late reaction to Tuesday's interim results with the price surging 8kp to 19kp in a thin market. Systems Recognition

Group fell 3p to 12s4p as the rump of its recent rights issue was placed in the marketplace. A total of 3.5 million shares were placed at 10p each. ☐ GILT-EDGED: The bond market recovered an opening

fall to close mixed on the day with longer-dated issues enjoy-ing modest gains, while shorts were left nursing small falls. Dealers said prices fluctuated in a narrow range with interest concentrated on the auction of index-linked stock. A total of £450 million of Treasury index-linked 2024 was covered a comfortable 1.83 times.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt fell 10p to £120.11 as the total number of contracts completed reached sues. Treasury 8 per cent 2021 fin-ished 3p up at £107.84, while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 ended 3p lower at £153. ☐ NEW YORK: Shares were mixed in morning trading as an opening surge lost steam amid profit-taking. By midday the Dow Jones industrial aver-

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# No Northern lights

savings culture is easier than

SO NORTHERN ROCK may securitise fu-ture mortgage business. Securitisation, the offloading of bundles of home loans to bond markets, is routine practice for US mortgage banks. The savings produced by this manocurre reduces the cost of the average mortgage by a third. But Northern Rock's potential embrace of securitisation is more a function of its lack of capital, than it is a desire to bring down the cost of financing. While its bigger rival Halifax has multibillion-pound cash resources. Northern Rock has only £150 million. Indeed, it has turned away business

for lack of funds. In yesterday's results there was more worry for shareholders because even without securitisation - a process which could hit revenues - Northern's net interest margin, the key measure of profitability, fell from 1.92 per cent

to 1.70 per cent. The declining profitability in the bank's core business is partly explained by the intense competition among home loan providers. But it also reflects the fact that North-ern is attracting minimal business from firsttime buyers, who are more profitable than next-time buyers or remortgage busine They are less flighty, too. But in 1998, find time buyers accounted for just 12 per cent of Northern's new business, compared with 16 per cent in the previous year. By contrast, remortgages rose from 37 per cent to 47 per cent of new lending.

Private individuals - beneficiaries of the demutualisation - can still count on Northern as a reliable home for a smallish slug of longterm savings. But with the housing market looking distinctly moribund this year, active investors must look elsewhere for value.

ty claims surprises to crop up. Meanwhile competition is re-

#### **CGU**

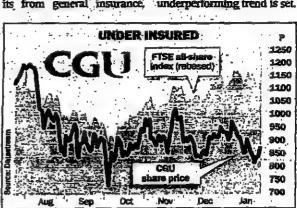
STARING at the sun causes temporary blindness, CGU's size makes it a big draw for investors but the market was dazzied as it gazed at yester-day's new business figures.

Shares ended the day 3.5 per cent higher at 876.5p and, while an 8 per cent increase. in new life and pensions business is far from disastrous, it is by no means brilliant. The life businesses are well managed and big European sales add to the appeal. But the UK dipped in the fourth quarter. and the French performance - albeit distorted by the tax changes that made 1997 a

bumper year - was poor. Yes, European markets are gradually deregulating and dropping barriers to cross-bor-der trade. But progress is patchy and in some regions, painfully slow. There are great hopes for burgeoning

effecting change to promote it. ducing the profitability of both the general and life sides. CGU investors forget that the Hold CGU for income atoutlook for general insurance tractions - the prospective is clouded, and that CGU gen-erates more than half its profgross yield is 5 per cent. But if it is growth you want, sell. The underperforming trend is set. its from general insurance, UNDER INSURED

sales of savings products in this country, too. But the Whitehall policymakers have found that talking about the type of the country of time for nasticular type of the country of the cou



#### Powerscreen.

POWERSCREEN has been an ugly dog of a share since the accounting problems of late 1997 shot the firm's reputation to pieces. But it is now scratching at the back door of your portfolio, whining and pleading to be let back into the warm.

Powerscreen is an engineer based in Northern Ireland. It makes heavy plant, for screening, crushing and handling construction materilay's results were g, mainly because nremarkable and an unqualified om Arthur An-

new auditor... accounting surfaced a is shows that the om the standstill

cause it means cheaper facili-ties. It is still spending on lawyers, though, trying to claim compensation from the previous auditors, KPMG, and three former executives.

The new execs insist they can grow the business by acquisition. But questions remain about how far they will be allowed to stretch, given the firm's recent history. Powerscreen is a more like-

bid target than bidder: an American firm is said to be lurking. On these grounds the shares are worth buying. Pearson

PEARSON shares appear to exemplify the notion that long-term earnings prospects which by historic standards, are very high. The theory is that, while the immediate

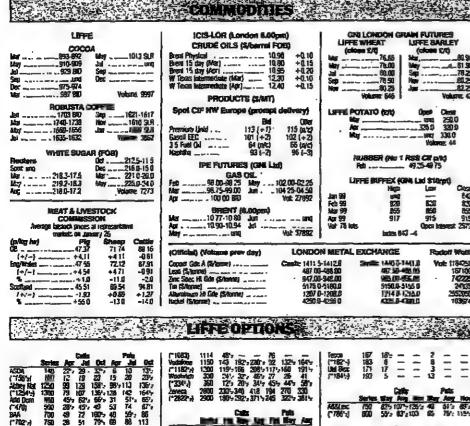
down, share prices are fully Pearson shares trade at 33

times consensus forecasts of earnings per share for 1998. And at £13.81 the company's ambition to double the market in five years has been achieved with three years to spare. Superficially it looks as if the anticipation of five years' carnings growth has been squeezed into two years' share price advancement.

For many companies such fearless anticipation is foolish. Before the acquisition of Simon & Schuster, it looked that way for Pearson, too. But S&S has changed the Pearson outlook and gives the group much stabler profis foundations:

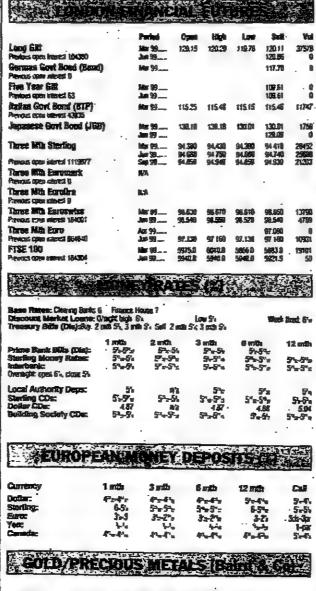
There is more obvious value in Reed International whose surge yesterday, taking the im provement this calendar year much still to go it is best to accumulate holdings of both.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



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ere is a true story. Once upon a time, there was an ageing business tycoon, small beginnings. Along this hard road, he had become a fearless ad-vocate of free market forces. He had also learnt to count pennies.

His female secretary, who had worked for him many years, seemed content with her modest salary: he was a likeable fellow and the job was exciting. Her boss, and the job was exclude. First 1005, a man of generous spirit but who liked to vet costs with a magnifying glass, did not see why any other secretary in his organisation. should be paid more.

Other top secretarial jobs soon became hard to fill. Even routine posts increasingly stayed vacant. Middle managers, who had to keep the show on the road, resorted to temporary staff supplied by agencies at much higher cost. They became de facto permanent. The relevant trade union, which

had a closed shop, saw that its power was being eroded. It set up its own agency, which became the main labour conduit and a modest

# Blair dreams in pay wonderland

but useful channel for would be im-migrants from many lands. Only when the great man

passed on could managers fully un-ravel the whole complex and su-per-expensive network, at great inty champion of markets failed to grasp how the laws of supply and demand worked in his own office.

This myopic madness now afflicts our own Government, at huge and growing cost to taxpayers. Ministers are never happier than when they land the primacy of market forces. Amazingly, however, the laws of supply and de-mand are deemed to stop at the the traffic lights north of Whitehall. By some magnificent illusion, what governs the outside world does not apply to government. It is inconvenient, so it it does not exist. Yesterday, this illusion surfaced

at the Department of Agriculture,

where Nick Brown proposed a commercial poll tax to fund a Food Standards Agency. Did he consult the small business minister? Did he see that he would favour giant corporations? Did he assume that

supply was impervious to cost?
Gordon Brown provides a more notorious example. Persuading more people to save for private pensions has such a high priority that the Treasury cannot resist med-dling with the efforts of the Department of Social Security. Yet the Chancellor blithely taxed pension funds by an extra £5 billion a year now and much more later, provid-ing the greatest single disincentive to pension saving of modern times. The most malign characteristic of new Labour is the assumption that ordinary people are ignorant and stupid and will not notice, if

wise leaders tell us what to do. Or-

dinary people are not as ignorant



that matter personally. We tend to notice, for instance, if the job down the road pays twice as much.
This official suspension of the laws of supply and demand was never more glaring than when Tony Blair lectured the public sec-tor over pay on Tuesday. The Na-tional Health Service is said to be forts to recruit cheap labour from abroad. There are similar though lesser shortages among teachers and in the armed forces. The logical cause is that they are

محدد من رالامل

not offered enough pay. Yes. con-certed leaks tell us that nurses at entry level can expect a rise of 11 per cent, but nurses as a whole are supposedly to be offered 4.7 per cent, which is less than last year's rise in money output per head, and most others a bit less than that.

Mr Blair, junking the inconven-ient laws, evidently takes the line that the problem is one of morale. So he told a audience from caring groups that their sense of public duty could be "awe-inspiring".
"What made you choose this ca-

reer" he said " is what made me go into politics — a chance to serve and make a difference. It is not just a job for you, it is a vocation".

Thanks for the praise, how about

some cash, union leaders under-standably responded. What nonsense. Vocation is not limited to the public sector. Even rich barristers can be dedicated. Thousands of nurses care about the patients and not the money, in the tradition of Florence Nightin-

gale. They would nurse for less than they are paid. Sadly, the National Health Service needs many more thousands than that. The laws of supply and demand sug-gest that the price of labour is set by the amount needed to attract the last one you need to make up the numbers, rather than those who are in it for love.

Market conditions changed since nursing was one of the few professions open to women. Perversely, it is degraded as a career. Ms. Nightingale was no sweetie-pie. In the sexual caste sys-

tem she inspired, matrons at the apex of nursing ruled hospitals. To-day, hospitals are run by adminis-

Women can do better elsewhere. Thanks to Mr Blair's idealistic moratorium on economic laws. pay taxes levied on low pay are of-ten better off quitting the NHS, signing up with an agency and go-ing back to the NHS as a temp. Many have done so, helping hospi-tals to ratchet up their pay bills.

While the Home Office spends huge sums of our money locking up some would-be economic migrants, the NHS is happily spending just as much to recruit many thousands more from the rest of Europe and far beyond. Has any-one told Jack Straw? Perhaps those dicrous surpluses of trained nurses. Perhaps we are just exploiting their forethought.

Of one thing you may be sure. The longer ministers continue to insist that laws of supply and demand do not apply to them, the

# Times they are a-changing, and so are the trade unions

The days of beer and sandwiches

at No 10 could be making a

comeback, writes Christine Buckley

ness at Work Bill, the Government will deliver the most wideranging package of employment rights for a generation. But the organisations that have long campaigned for these rights, the trade unions, are seeing their membership falling.

It is a trend that has not seen arrested by the election of a Labour Government nor its promised restoration of many union rights. Last year, mem-bers of TUC affiliated unions fell from 6.9 million to 6.8 million and from 31 per cent of the workforce to 30 per cent. At its peak — in 1980 — union mempership stood at 12 million. Further numbers will be lost this year as the recession in manufacturing and textiles

claims more victims. The fall is not a shock to many unions. The days when: they could hold a nation to ransome — such as during the miners strikes in 1972 and 1974 the winter of discontent in 1978/79 — have long gone. Trade union leaders are no longer invited to Downing Street for beer and sandwiches. They realised that the workplace has changed and now

they are attempting to adjust.

One of the largest factors in the fall is that manufacturing - a traditional stronghold for unions - has declined. Britain now has one of the smallest sections of the workforce employed in manufacturing in the European Union. Big employers, such as the power industries and telecommunications, have been privatised.

THE PARTY

niting countless jobs.

More people are employed on short contracts, part-time work and zem-hour contracts. Personal contracts have reduced the role of unions to setpay levels. More work is subcontracted, franchised or outsourced and more people are working from home.

The culture of the workplace has changed hugely. Fewer people believe in jobs for life. more are willing to change jobs to progress careers. The protective function of unions

will always be an important part of their role, but it is becoming less so. Some older workers remain in unions through sentiment. Young employees do not necessarily feel

Declining union membership has reduced the organisations incomes. Squeezed for cash, some have merged. Talks are being held across a number of unions. Soon, members will be asked to vote on the three-way merger of Bifu. UNIFI and the NatWest Staff association.

But, frustratingly, many merged unions have found their membership has also fallen: with workers feeling they are no longer part of a relevant organisation. Some complain that massive unions that sprawl across a variety of inclustries are empowering more for their leaders than members. The solution to the falling

union ranks would therefore seem not to be in retrenchment. Transformation is more likely to be the key.

Tony Cooper, general secretary of the Engineers and Managers Association, believes unions must behave more like businesses. They need to find their markets and offer a greater range of services. There is no reason, he thinks, why a union should not operate like the AA, for example, in order to build up numbers. Members could choose from various lev-



Old school: Len Murray was TUC General Secretary from 1973-84

TUC MEMBERSHIP AND GENERAL SECRETARIES

els of service, from a basic provision to an all-frills option.

"Unions need to be more com-petitive, and, more relevant," Cooper says. "We need to offer services that people want. There is a decline in membership that will continue unless we have something to offer." The AEEU, one of Britain's

bigger unions with 678,135 members, has made one of the biggest moves into providing additional services. Last year it launched the first stakeholder pension scheme with

Friends Provident. It was designed to give members in companies without pension plans an opportunity to join a scheme that had the benefits of a large organisation. The AEEU is also looking at extending its legal services to members' families and could operate a sabbatical system

services overseas. Ken Jackson, general secretary, says: "There has been a big shift away from traditional employment and we have got

for members to do voluntary

way we go about things. There is an opportunity to increase membership with the Fairness at Work Bill but we have to opcrate in ways that move the un-

ions into the 21st century."

John Edmonds, the GMB's leader, is optimistic about recruitment prospects. He believes another two million can easily be added if recruitment officers are yigorous. But, because of changing patterns in the workplace, new recruits may come in ones and twos rather than the wholesale addition of a workplace.

Some of his recruiting officers are on the youth trail Last year the GMB went to 16 music festivals and have found a rallying cry in the minimum wage. Young people, ag-grieved that the Government has imposed a reduced rate for younger workers, have become more interested in the union movement, says Mr Edmonds. He also sees the fluctuating

nature of work as an opportunity for recruitment rather than an obstacle. "People are becoming more suspicious of managers. They expect to be the UK than in any other country in Europe. They are turning to unions for protection."

The TUC is devoting much of its campaign resources to a recruitment drive. Its organising academy, which was set up at a cost of £2 million to train recruitment officers, is also placing much emphasis on targeting young members. The TUC is keen to reposi-

tion itself fully as a modern

-10

1998: John

force in the employment are-

the same picture. Unions have tended to be inherently conservative groups, disliking radical change. Those who want to modern-

ise the movement are frustrated by the attitude of more traditional barons, complaining that they behave just like barons, pining for the old days when they could bring a company - or indeed a government - to its knees with strikes. They say that while John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, is one of the most forward-looking and realistic union leaders, his hands are

largely tied by some members of the governing body. The TUC shares Mr Ed-monds's optimism that once the Fairness at Work rights are in place and working then unions will be buoyed by new interest from potential members.

right of representation by a union when an employee deals with managers - which comes regardless of recognition in the workplace — would have a big impact. He said that because of the shift in attitudes towards partnership, the unions could hope for long-term membership gain by "embracing new industries".

The unions, while welcoming the reforms of the Fairness at Work legislation, have criticised the Government for watering down the original proposals. They complain that some ministers wanted to distance the Government from the union movement to a ridiculous degree.

But the frostiness of the Government to its traditional paymastersis not just new Labour dogma to keep the unions at arm's length. It also stems from a desire by the Government not to be closely associated with a loser - a once powerful body that is diminishing. However, this is a Govern-

ment sensitive to public opin-ion and trends almost to the point of neurosis. If the unions were to reinvigorate themselves effectively, they would probably find themselves more warmly welcomed by hitherto indifferent ministers. The era of beer and sandwiches could yet return.

# AltaVista, the company you cannot ignore

THOSE who have not heard of AltaVista, Yahool or Excite soon will. This week's announcement that AltaVista, part of US computer giant Compaq, is set to follow its two rivals by staging a multi-billion dollar flotation adds weight to the theory that such companies will dominate business life in coming years.

In many ways, the likes of AltaVista, Yahoo! and Excite represent a new breed of media companies. In the early days of the Internet, they were known simply as "search engines" (because they allowed academics to hunt for obscure information on the Worldwide Web), but now prefer to be described as "portals". What they offer is an easy starting point for users of the Internet, and hundreds of jointly branded services.

This is important for many reasons. It is widely believed that if the Internet is to become mainstream, it needs a handful of established starting points, which act like high-tech television networks. Instead of editorialising, such companies are said to "aggregate content". Yahool's site is a good examnie. Visitors can either use the

company's search facilities, or use its site to go shopping online (for airline tickets or insurance, for example). There is also an excellent (and free) stock market information service, and a Reuters newswire. The company makes money by selling advertising — which can be electronically tailored to match the areas visitors are looking at - and taking a cut out of all online credit card transactions.

For traditional businesses, portals can be extremely helpful in gaining a presence online. For online retailers and information providers, signing a joint venture deal with a company such as AltaVista can be hugely valuable. After all, millions of Internet users already trust the brands of the big three portals, and visit their sites almost every time

they go online.
Although many internet Service Providers (such as America On Line and, most recently. Dixons) are eager to

portals, they have not yet managed to significantly dent the power of AltaVista et al. Most traditional media companies have also failed to create successful alternative portals.

The likes of Yahoo! may face a tough fight, but it is looking increasingly likely that traditional media companies will simply decide to sign more joint ventures with established portals instead of competing bead-to-head with

Some of the world's largest telecoms and technology companies aiready appear to be-lieve this, with At Home last week buying Excite for \$6.7 billion, and Microsoft this week signing a far-reaching joint venture with AltaVista. This is still obviously plenty

all the evidence so far suggests that Compaq's idea to float AltaVista is a good one.

☐ IT WILL soon become possible to send e-mails from anywhere in the world thanks to a new satellite laternet service from British Telecom. The service, from BT Aeronautical & Maritime (BT A&M), will offer free subscription, and be aimed initially at the energy. shipping and media sectors

☐ DIGITAL ONE, the digital radio consortium led by GWR, owner of Classic FM, this week advertised three new channels for tender. Companies interested in producing programmes for any of the new digital channels which include soft adult contemporary music, plays, books and comedy: and allnight dance music - have until February 12 to register.

**CHRIS AYRES** 

# Jeep water

A TALE of woe from Blakeney Management, the aggressive fund linked with George Soros, in a circular to investors apologising for the non-arrival of an update on how the busi-

In December, just two days after Blakeney narrowly failed to throw out half the board of Lonrho Africa, explains Miles Morland, the Blakeney boss. "our upstairs neighbours in Chelsea Wharf installed new plumbing using an exciting new pop-on plumbing joint. "The main feature of this is that it pops off as soon as the plumber goes home," he adds.



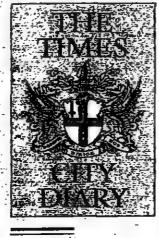
Our alarm summoned us at four in the morning. We called the fire brigade who told us: You've got a nasty flood here, guv'. "We, ankle deep in water.

thanked them for this information and asked if they could be so good as to break in upstairs and turn the water off. 'Couldn't do that, squire. That' would involve breaking in The flood knocked out three of Blakeney's computers and much of its filing. "We have since managed to blow-dry our Imro reports but business has been disrupted," Morland

reports lugubriously.

He ends on a positive note. The next update will be out by mid-February — "unless we suffer a plague of frogs in the.

NORTHERN ROCK chief executive Leo Finn's first taste of media stardom yesterday was not a success. There being no proper phone line at ABN Amro, the broker, the bureaucrats at Radio 4 insisted he conduct an interview in the radio car, the favoured soap-box of many a Cabinet minister. His first attempt was marred by technical problems. These solved, the car was moved on



1945 1950 1955 1960

#### Oh, Carol

rr would be uncharitable to name names, but Carol and Mary at least know who they are. I have a chain e-mail that details probably the most incompetent attempt ever by a headhunter to poach staff. It begins with an artful request to PA Consulting for the name of a senior marketing manager in life sciences. Car-

ol, who took care not to reveal

that she worked for one of the

biggest headhunters on the planet, was directed to the relevanf person. The next e-mail was from her boss, Mary, in Dallas. It was a detailed whinge about what a rotten day she was having, how they didn't want anyone too senior-for the post and about how a previous interviewee had not worked out but had still cost a fortune in trav-The e-mail should have gone

to Carol. It was probably not a terribly bright idea for Mary to wrongly direct it to PA. whose employee they were both trying to lift.

AS THE Davos gablest continues, more translations of the corporate-speak that comes out of there from Lewis Lap-ham, editor of Harper's Magazine, who attended last year's forum and was not much impressed. For unemployment, read "necessary check on infla-tion", he says. And civil liberties are better thought of as favours granted to minorities, criminals, radicals and the undeserving poor. Extremely expensive".

#### More or less

SO WHAT of Roger Parry, unstoppable chief executive of More Group, the outdoor poster business sold to the Americans last summer? Is it true hewent for the chief executive's iob at Carlton Communications, as media gossip has it? It is indeed. "I was interested to hear what the job was all about "Parry says. "I'm not ac-

Instead More, now owned by Clear Channel, a huge American corporation, is hoping to

Worth buying

buy Avenir, a big French poster business being sold by Vivendi. the conglomerate that used to be Compagnie Générale des Eaux.

The deal would be worth hundreds of millions of dollars, and Parry, who certainly does not seem to be chafing under the American corporate yoke, says it would have been much more difficult as a quoted company because of the need to raise fresh capital.

Not to mention more expensive, with all those City fees. "All those Cazenove sandwiches, that Slaughter & May cake, the Schroders stewed tea ... he muses, sounding like a man who has been there and does

MARTIN WALLER

not much want to go back.



Sandwiches, cake and tea cannot tempt Roger Parry

#### BUSINESS FETTER 1

#### Consequences of Cruickshank's appointment full glory! We know that the so-

From Mr Hugh Kearns Sir. The appointment of Don Cruickshank to investigate the competitiveness of high street banks is a move welcomed by all, except perhaps the banks.

Immediately following the pro-posed publication of the report, the Year 2000 will happen and the fruits of Mr Cruickshank's current one-and-a-half days a week as Chairman of Action 2000 shoud be revealed in their

called "millennium bug" will hit government and industry, public and private lives, nationally and internationally. The problem is not myth or hype as it is already being experienced, Il months early. Is Mr Cruickshank "Superman" that he can take on this additional significant role whilst addressing a problem many times larger than most people are capa-

This appointment is yet another in the Year 2000 saga of our Government acting without fully considering the consequences.

His appointment should be either reconsidered or his Action 2000 position given to a full-time individual immediately. Yours faithfully, HUGH KEARNS. Carpathia Consulting Group. Business Design Centre,

MMC INVITES EVIDENCE ON THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF CITYFLYER EXPRESS LIMITED

Stephen Byers, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, DTI, has asked the MMC to inquire into the proposed acquisition by British Airways plc of CityFlyer Express Limited.

He has made this reference because of competition concerns in respect of the market for air services. The MMC will examine all aspects of the merger in considering whether it may be expected to operate against the public interest.

syone wishing to submit evidence or obtain a copy of the full terms of reference should write to: The Reference Secretary (RA/CITYFLYER), Monopolies and Mergers Commission, New Court, 48 Carey Street, London WC2A 2JT by 15th February 1999.

By British Airways Plc

# Miners ignore cutback calls

ANALYSTS attacked the international mining industry yesterday for its failure to curb production despite a sharp fall in commodity prices.

Speaking after the release of another series of strong quarterly production figures by Rio Tinto, the worldwide mining giant, analysts said the industry needed "leadership and dis-

They pointed to increasing stockpiles on the London Met-al Exchange (LME) as evidence of the miners' refusal to address the growing burden of oversupply and gave warning that many commodity prices could have further to fall.

Rio highlighted the industry's predicament with sharply higher production of cop-per, coal, gold and aluminium in the three months to Decem-

The figures, with the exception of iron ore and borates, were slightly ahead of City exnectations. Coal production soared 53 per cent in the quarter compared with the previous corresponding period to 34.5 million tonnes.

This stemmed from last year's purchase of the Jacobs Ranch mine in America as well as higher production at its Indonesian and Australian

Gold mined jumped 60 per cent to 886,000 ounces and copper mined rose 27 per cent to 238.100 tonnes. Aluminium production for

the quarter was up 5 per cent to 131,700 tonnes but the impact of the Asian economic crisis on Japanese steel milis resulted in iron ore output slid-ing 4 per cent to 13.2 million

Nick Wilson, an analyst with BT Alex Brown, said the growing tonnages were a glaring example of the pressure being exerted on commodity prices by oversupply.

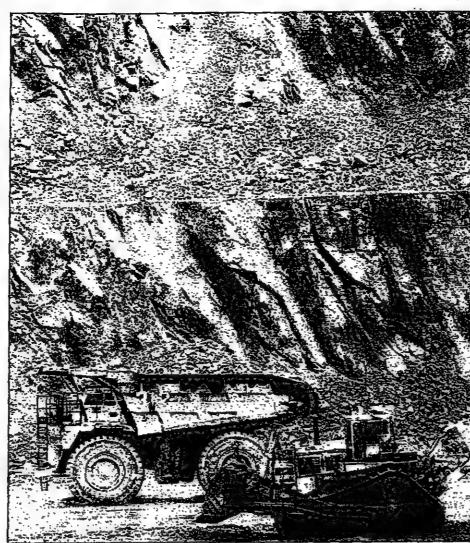
"in certain markets Rio is big enough to have an impact on price," Mr Wilson said. "The problem is, most miners still believe there is somebody further up the cost curve who ought to be shutting their

He said mining companies still believed metal prices would return to their longterm averages but their appetites for production growth

were delaying the recovery.
Russell Skirrow, global mining analyst with Merrill
Lynch, said most metal prices were below analysts' forecasts were almost certain in the impending round of profit re-

ports.
"One tonne of marginal production in an oversupplied market has an impact on price." Mr Skirrow said.

"It could be that it is better for shareholders not to in-crease production, but the companies say to hell with prices, let's try to force our competition out of the market"."



Analysis say the growing tonnage figures are evidence of the pressure on prices of oversupply

### Decline in demand for TVs hits Sony

BY OUR CITY STAFF

SONY CORP, the Japanese electronics giant, yesterday re-ported a fall in sales in the three months to December 31. which it attributed to lower demand for the company's television and audio equipment.

Sony said it was only an exceptional securities gain that enabled it to report an 8.3 per cent rise in pre-tax profit to Y232 billion (£1.27 billion) for the quarter.

the quarter.

Revenue was down 3.2 per cent at Y1.948 billion, with the strong yen and lower results from its pictures division also taking a toll.

The results prompted Masayushi Moritmoto, vice-president, to give warning that he was "very concerned" about the prospects in Japan.

Sony blamed increased

Sony blamed increased price competition, lower sales nd production falls for the re-

duced revenue. However, the company was helped by video sales and strong music sales, with hit releases from Mariah Carey, Ce

line Dion and George Michael. Sony forecast pre-tax profit for the full year to March, would be ¥360 billion - down 21 per cent on the previous year. Net profit is expected to reach Y160 billion, down from its last forecast, and a 28 per cent fall from a year earlier. Revenue is expected to slip i per cent to Y6,700 billion.

# Repossessions up by 3% on last year

THE number of properties repossessed by mortgage lenders increased by 3 per cent in 1998, compared with the previous year according to figures published by the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML). The organisation believes the situation could deteriorate this year which means there must be a focus on offering better outsile properties increases for mortgage borrows. fering better quality protection insurance for mortgage borrow.
ers. The CML data shows that 33,820 homes were repossess.

last year, compared with 32,770 in 1997, although the greater proportion took place in the second half of the year.

Michael Coogan, director general of CML, said: "We must be alert to the possibility of some increase in arrears if, as expected there is a cloud-one in the economy during 1999." The perted, there is a slowdown in the economy during 1999," The CML underlined that the level of arrears and repossessions will not return to the lower levels of the 1980s. A spokeswoman said: Owner occupation is higher and the nature of the employments market has changed. It is more difficult to know if you will have a stable income these days. The CML is working with the insurance industry and Government to it-troduce minimum standards of protection insurance in the case of difficulties with payment.

#### Ashanti gold record

ASHANTI GOLDFIELDS, the Ghanaian gold miner, posted record gold production of 421,573 ounces in the December quarter. The result lifted the year's output to 1.55 million ounces, a 32 per cent increase from 1997. Cash costs for the final three months were down 11 per cent from the previous corresponding period at \$208 per ounce. Ashanti said development of the 400,000 ounce a year Geita mine in Tanzania, which is inherited through the takeover of SAMAX, was on course fighterst production by the end of next year. Geita has resources of 6.4 million ounces and cash costs are forecast to be \$171/oz.

#### SWX opens in London

THE Swiss Exchange (SWX) has opened its first foreign of fice in Docklands, at Canary Wharf. The bourse said that the move was intended to increase trading volumes by attracting new parties to the exchange, while the London office would also act as a marketing platform for SWX's products and services, especially euroboards and repurchase interpretations. struments. Leo Hug, spokesman for the exchange, said that the move would bring additional liquidity to the Swiss-bourse. The SWX has 57 hermoers. Some four or five staffwill work in the London office.

### GE Capital shake-up

CONSOLIDATION in the UK and European insurance mar ket and the opportunity to sell new products to an ageing population has spurred General Electric Company into reorganising GE Capital, its financial services arm. From today, ten insurance and administrative businesses will operate under the umbrella of GE insurance Holdings. The new group will be led by Clive Cowdery, chief executive, and includes a number operations including Consolidated Financial Insurance, GE Capital Travel Insurance Services, Pet Protect, Stalwart Assurance and GE Pinancial Assurance.

#### T-Online branches out

DEUTSCHE TELEKOM is to offer its T-Online service outside Germany this year after enjoying a sharp increase in the number of domestic users. The service will initially be available in Switzerland and Austria and will then be extended to other countries, Telekom has set up a total of 2,500 points of presence (local phone numbers) in 150 countries to enable I-Online customers to access the service from around the world. The number of T-Online users should reach 2.8 million by the end of January, having risen by 42 per cent to 2.7

# Disney suffers drop in first-quarter profits

By SAEED SHAH

WALT DISNEY, the entertainment group, saw profits drop is per cent in the first quarter. hampered by high costs of broadcasting American foot-ball, lower ratings for ABC's news programmes and slower

Disney's results were below Wall Street estimates. The decline came despite strong boxoffice showings from The Waterboy. A Bug's Life and En-emy of the State. There was also rising attendance at its theme parks.

Disney's net profit was \$622

cents per share, in the three months to December 31, down from \$755 million, or 37 cents per share, in the same period a year earlier. Revenue rose 4 per cent to \$6.59 billion.

The quarter's results were boosted by the acquisition of a 43 per cent interest in Infoseek. the Internet search engine. The bright spot was Disney's

theme parks and resorts divi-

sion, where operating profits rose 17 per cent to \$335 million. The results came two weeks after Disney announced that chief executive Michael Eisn-

nearly half to \$5 million because of sluggish profit growth.
Disney was also hurt by the Asian financial crisis, poor boxoffice performance and costly

Euro Disney, its European arm, also confirmed reports yesterday that it is considering building a second theme park on the Disneyland Paris site.

It has launched a feasibility study and has held discus-sions with the French Government about the second park. which was planned in the original 1987 agreement, to be com-

#### NBM to oust **Blockleys** directors

NATIONAL Building Materials yesterday requisitioned an extraordinary general meeting of Blockleys, the builder's merchant, to allow shareholders to vote on the removal of the directors and their replacement by the NBM board (Saeed Shah writes).

The company said it now speaks for 44.74 per cent of NBM shares and has received irrevocable undertakings from Eaglet Investment Trust, Telford Investments and Christopher Evans to vote in favour of the restructuring.

AIM-listed NBM last month launched a £13 million hostile bid for Blockleys which is list-

### Perot to sell 7% stake in flotation

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

ROSS PEROT, the Texan billionaire who stood in two US presidential elections as an independent candidate, is floating Perot Systems on the

Mr Perot, who owns a 45 per cent interest, will sell a 7 per cent stake in his \$1 bil-lion (£606 million) information network company, which counts East Mid-lands Electricity among its

biggest customers.
Mr Perot, 68, was founder
of EDS, the outsourcing group. He sold EDS to General Motors for \$2.5 billion in

board in Detroit for two years but quickly fell out with other directors.

Mr Perot set up Perot Sys tems as a rival to EDS. Perot Systems is regarded as a highly successful start-up with 30 per cent revenue growth last year.

Mr Perot's Wall Street bankers hope to sell the Perot

Systems shares on the basis that it will one day grow to the size of EDS, currently worth \$25 billion,

The trend towards outsourcing is expected to continue as companies take advan-

# Firms can learn as they pay

Companies can turn the new

corporate tax regime to their

advantage, says Tony Elgood

nly once in a generation is the tax system fundamentally reformed - or so went the opening line of Gordon Brown's 1998 Budget speech.

Large UK companies will soon get a taste of this fundamental reform because their first corporation tax payment under the new quarterly tax payment regime will be due soon. A few have already paid. The new regime requires

"large companies" (broadly. those with taxable profits above £1.5 million — this limit being divided by the number of companies in the worldwide group) to make quarterly tax payments in the seventh, tenth, thirteenth and sixteenth months after the start of their accounting period.

Crucially, the first two pay-ments will be based on forecasts of liability for the period: also, few companies will historically have completed tax computations before month 13.

The new payment regime creates a big cashflow hit. The Treasury has forecast that it will gain £7.5 billion. The Revenue has softened the blow of the new regime by introducing a transitional period, in which companies will initially pay 60

per cent of liability in instal-ments, rising to 100 per cent in year four. The balance of each transitional year's liability will be paid under "old rules". Nevertheless, companies will effectively pay five years' tax liabilities over a four-year period.

Interest will be charged (at base plus 2 per cent) if quarterly instalments prove to be less than should have been paid, and will be paid (at base minus 0.25 per cent) on overpayments, with more punitive rates from nine months after the year end. Given that tax payment will be based on forecasts, interest payments will become the norm. Companies must review tax payment strat-egies in the light of their sensitivity to such interest rates. Historically, companies

have fought shy of interest on overdue tax and tended to overpay. They need to assess whether this still makes sense. The new payment rules

come amid other tax changes. Corporate Tax Self Assessment (CTSA) has extra responsibilities and risks for companies, especially ones with crossborder interests. The Government's "Spend to Save" initiative is making itself felt, and there is concern from compa-



Tony Elgood says upfront tax may help firms to gain insight

justified) that the Revenue is per cent, to be avoided? becoming more aggressive. So what should companies

nies (which may not always be ty interest, at twice base plus 4 At a higher level, the chang-

es are leading companies to look at tax strategies, at approach to tax risk and at how do? Most obviously, they need to think through the new payment regime and be geared up the tax function supports busito decide how much to pay each quarter. What is the attiness aims. Companies must also understand where tax tude to interest? How is penalrisks lie. With CTSA, if a Rev-

have been wrong, substantial tax-geared penalties can apply. Investing in identifying tax risk is step one in the "selfpolicing" that protects against extra tax charges, penalties and costly Revenue inquiries. The taxman emphasises that "voluntary compliance" is in companies' interests. The Revenue is using data

extraction techniques with powerful software that can identify problem areas in seconds. Companies should consider using such methods to see where they may claim too much, or too little, tax relief. These changes will proba-

bly involve more resource, process improvement, and more use of technology or advisers. Advances in technology also make tax outsourcing well worth looking at again.
This need not be "running just to stand still". The necessi-

ty of quarterly forecasts for tax payment purposes should en-courage improvement of tax forecasting and reporting sys-tems. Companies that use this to gain "real-time" understanding of drivers of their tax cost. and capacity to react to tax opportunities, can turn the "burden" of quarterly forecasting into significant benefit in managing their tax position.

Tony Elgood is a senior PricewaterhouseCoopers tax partner specialising in corporate

## As if VAT rules weren't complicated enough

eville Trout is going to be a busy man. He is the chan at Customs and Excise who is about to be inundated with comments after the publication last the document provides an answer immediately. Revenue put out its consultation document last year. Customs is thinking of having separate GAARs for specific areas where it thinks avoidance should be cracked down upon. It rather takes away the point of the rule being "general", but never mind.

The first of these deals with schemes within the communities industry, which in VAT terms, is one of the most complex of all the ludi-crous entanglements that the administration of VAT has got itself into. For the purpose of deciding whether the proposed mini-GAAR is a good thing or a had thing, it is best to ignore the technical arguments about construction and VAT.

Originally the reason for the idea of mini-GAARs to deal with VAT was blamed on Brussels. European law would make such a system the only way in which Customs could legally work, said boffins deep within Customs and Excise. VAT is, after all, a Europe-wide tax, and we are all supposed to be moving in harmony on any VAT issues.

man's cheap bottle of beer bought in Calais.

At a stroke, Customs and Excise has decid-

ed on a method that makes spotting what is,

and what is not illegal very simple. In

future, if this document comes to fruition, all

that would matter would be if Customs and

Excise said that something was illegal. If it said so, then it would be so and the fine

would be as follows

Overnight, any thoughts of concepts of freedom under the law and all those princi-

ples that make the life of a fax gatherer so

Or, as the document puts it "When this

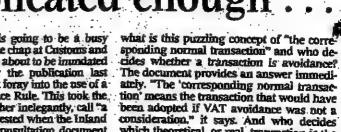
Schedule applies to a VAT avoidance trans-

action, the same consequences follow for VAT purposes as if the corresponding nor-

mal transaction had been carried out. But

difficult, would be abandoned.

However, that seems to have been abandoned. The thinking behind the document last week is simple. The point where tax tax management avoidance becomes tax evasion is difficult to pin down. One man's tax evasion is another



which theoretical, or real, transaction is the normal one or the avoidance one? Customs; and Excise. And how would they know?

Because one transaction would bring in less VAT revenue than the other. The defini-

tion of tax evasion is reduced simply to one of a monetary test. If there are two routes and you follow the one that raises less revenue for Customs and Excise, then you are a tax evade er and the full weight

the courts will duly descend on you

ROBERT

BRUCE

Any route that saved you VAT would land you under the GAAR. The bysteria over tax revenues is truly producing some ridiculous confortions to make the principles of tax gathering fit the politicians desperate need to find more and more tax revenue.

For example, a company could decide to reorganise its various office buildings to make its organisation more effi-

cient. One side-effect of this could be that less, rather than more, VAT is due. The Customs and Excise argument would be that your decision was not a normal decision. Or as Peter Jenkins, Ernst & Young's VAT guru, as Peter Jenkins, Ernst & Young's VAT guru, would put it "The benighted taxpayer feels that he has to go by the least efficient tax route in case he is strung up."

Back at Customs and Excise, they would not understand this at all. What they would believe is that they have at last cracked the

believe is that they have at last cracked the

They misunderstand. What they will have done, should a series of mini-GAARs become the norm, is to have made an already hugely over-complex tax into something that is infinitely more complicated, if that is possi-ble. Any dispute is going to finish up at the VAT tribunal. Even more tax law will be

Comments on the document are required to be in by March L Mr Trout ought to indent now for a king-size keepnet in which

#### Call-up for local heroes

DAME Sheila Masters, who, in a few months, will become the English ICA's first woman president, will also be its mil-lennial president. This sort of thing requires a bold initiative or two and you will not be surprised that several are on the way. Masters aims to convince the nation that everyone ought to be an accountant. Under the slogan "Everybody Counts", the project will encourage accountaints everywhere to rise up to show how important

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS fied Accountants has dropped chartered accountants are in

the community. Institute members will be expected to advise and encourage all manner of community projects and to visit schools to convince the youth of today that accountancy has a useful role next century. It is a worthy initiative. But you can see why Masters may have a bit of an uphill task. Winner's move

AFTER ten glorious years, the

Association of Chartered Certi-

its Accountancy Journalist of the Year awards. This has obviously proved devastating to cy Age in those days, has given up his green eye-shade and spike. He has jumped tracks and can now be found in the media relations department of PricewaterhouseCoopers. There he is looking after assur-

ance and business advisory services. Or what you and I

Fraud-busters

ANYONE coming within a few yards of Douglas-Liambias can be pretty sure of some noisy advice. The veteran English ICA council member, recruitment consultant and fixer of accountancy mergers, is not one to shirk what he sees as his duty. Now he has written to the Chancellor of the Ex-

chequer offering to fight fraud within the EU. Several years ago, he helped to set up an effective system, the Account-ants' Fraud Panel, to provide police in Britain with accountancy expertise. Now he is offering to do the same in Europe.
"We need good people who like being Sherlock Holmes,"
he said, adding that the work is "exching as long as you don't get bumped off". Llambias's only problem is the Chan-cellor. "Since sending him the letter, I have been deafened by the silence," he reports.

ROBERT BRUCE

#### the winner of the trade paper section in last year's awards. Jon Bunn, who was the illustrious news editor at Accountan-

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THE TIMES THURSDAY JANUARY 28 1999 Modest falls at the close TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous days close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. Spring Money Guides 100円のでは、100円の The definitive guide to Personal Finance Saturday February 6th OTHER FINANCIAL For more information on advertising please call 0171 782 7566 155 + 1 29 148 715+ 2 225 55+ 4 30 117 52+ 4 53 117 52+ 6 34 134 1527 - 16 12 205 - 20 192 205 - 20 192 205 - 20 192 207 - 7 41 157 207 - 7 31 123 207 - 7 41 157 9875 335 10535 175 177 1175 4025 1730 978 580 180°; 127°, Japhar Jod Ern 148°; ... 3,5 ... 187°, 518 Japhar Johnson 275°, + 10° 1.1 ... 185°, 10° 1.1 ... 186°, 10° 1... 186°, 10° 1... 186°, 10° 1... 186°, 10° 1... 186°, 10° 1... 186°, 10° 1... 186°, 10° 1. ALTERNATIVE INV M.

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#### Bargains of the week: from a trip to the historic sites of Lebanon to a Valentine's break in Dublin or birdwatching in Nepal



A selection of last-minute holidays and travel opportunities at home, on the Continent and farther afield, many ut bargain prices

THE cast of Oklahoma! led by Maureen Lipman has just taken up residence at the Lyceum Theatre after a sell-out run at the National and good seats and a night at a leading West. End botel are now available from Theatrebreak from £108. Details: 01904 679999:

COTTAGES sleeping four on a farm in North Devon are available for £167 for a week from February 13 with Farm and Cottage Holidays. Details: 01237 479698.

DUBLIN, always lively, sometimes romantic, is availa-ble over Valentine's weekend ith Thomas Cook Holidays. Fly from Heathrow on FebruB&B at the Arlington Hotel for £201. Details: 01733 418188.

A BICYCLE made for two comes as a free optional extra on a Valentine's weekend at Hallery House Hotel, Chelten harn. For those on four wheels, The Romantic Road is offered. Dinner, B&B for two nights from February 12 costs £220 a couple. Details: 01242 578450.

JERSEY for Valentine's weekend for £139 with flights from Gatwick or Southamp-ton are on offer from Jersey Travel Service. Fly on February 13 or 14 and enjoy two nights with dinner, B&B. Details: 0181-891 6020.

TAKE the catamaran from Weymouth as an alternative on February 13 and a week's B&B at the Mayfair, Jersey. with an indoor pook and gym. children from Modern Hotels Details: 01534 59529.

■ SINGING for pleasure programmes every morning and evening are harmonised with afternoon walks on a midweek break at Grasmere in the Lake District with Countrywide Holidays. The price for four nights full board in a guest house from February 15 is ary 12 and enjoy two nights, £164. Details: 0161-446 2226.

EVEN in February, Paris must still be the favourite city of many who choose to enjoy a ro-mantic Valentine's weekend —

manic Valentine's weekend —
and it can be inexpensive, Tony
Dawe writes. Two nights B&B
with return flights from Garwick cost from £135 with Crystal Premier Cities while three
nights at the elegant Hotel Ambassador cost from £245 with bassador cost from £245 with flights. Champagne is included for stays between February 8 and 15. Details: 0181-241 5040. A two-night break by Eurostar from February 12 to 14 starts at £179 with Eurotours: Time Off has a three-night stay with rail travel for £98 (but not over Valentine's weekend). Details: Eurotours 0181-289, 8889.

THE most romantic offer of the week, however, must be tickets for the ballet Romeo and Juliet, at Prague's National Theatre, together with three nights B&B at a three star hotel in the city. Packages with reum flights cost from £366 with Travel for the Arts. Derails: 0171-483 4466.

tails: Eurotours 0181-289 3889;

Time Off 0990 846363.

■ CROSS-COUNTRY skiing is a more energetic suggestion for Valentine's Day and you can do this with Headwater on a week's holiday from Febru-ary 13 in the western Auvergne, France. Full board in a family-run hotel with pool plus ski hire and pass cost from £348 if you drive down, or from £539 if you fly then take the train. Details: 01606 813367.

INSTANT winter sun should be available if you fly on Tuesday from Gatwick to Majorca, where a week's selfcatering in Palma costs only 199 with First Choice Details: 0870-750 0100

MUSIC, from folk to classical, is the focus of the Venice Carnival which runs from February 5 to 15, though masked balls and street theatre also play a part Lumn Poly has a variety of offers to the city with for example, three nights B&B at a canal-side hotel and flight from Gatwick on February 7 costing E432. Details from the company's Holiday Shops.

# HALF-TERM week in Feb-

ruary (whichever one it is for your children) is available at a choice of villas in the Algarve with The Villa Agency. Prices start from £175 for a week in a property sleeping four in Albu-leira; flights and car hire can also be arranged. Details: 01273 747811.



Valentine's weekend in the city of romance need not be costly

#### 

TEN nights in Nepal with return flights from London for less than £1,000 are on offer from Naturetrek, which is leading birdwatching tours starting on February 5 and 26. Explore the upper slopes of the Kathmandu Valley, Chitwan National Park and a wetlands wildlife reserve for £990. Details: 01962 733051.

JAMAICA for a week for £449 with a flight from Gat-wick on Sunday or Barbados for £489 with a flight from the same airport on Monday are among late offers from Co-op Travelcare. Both are Airtours trips with room-only deals. Details: 0541 500388.

■ FEBRUARY is a popular month for visiting Orlando and Disneyworld, especially over half term, and Jetsave has some bargain fly-drive deals. Return flights and a fortnight's car hire are on offer from £199, with Virgin flights available for an extra £100. Accommodation, from family hotels to luxury homes, can be arranged. Details: 01342 312033.

PINK coral sand and de lightful scenery should make Bermuda a suitably romantic

Valentine's destination and Prestige Holidays is offering a three-night self-catering break on the island from £399 with flights from Gatwick. Details: 01425 480400.

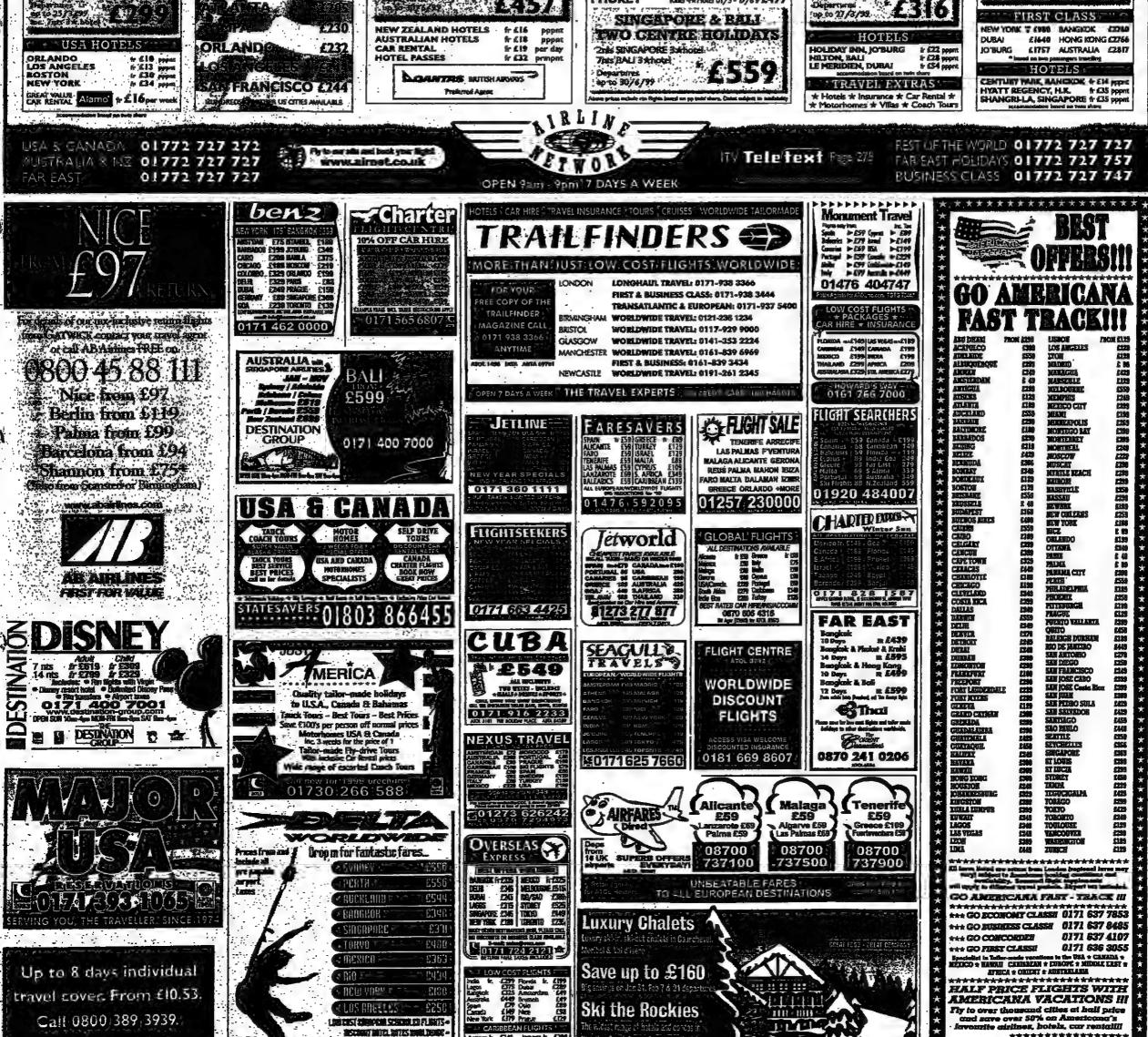
■ THE ravages of civil war still evident in Beirut will be overshadowed by the glories of a previous age on an introductory trip to Lebanon with Bales Worldwide. The temples of Baalbek, city of Byblos and the historic sites of Tyre and Sidon are included in the week's holiday, costing £499 with B&B and a flight from Heathrow on February 21, Details: 01306 876881.

SYDNEY for a formight for £651 with return flights from Gatwick is a near unbeatable Great Escape. The offer is limited, however, to a departure on March 2 and the price includes accommodation vouchers. Details: 0171-584 0202.



Saturday for more flight bargains and last-minute holidays







The state of the s



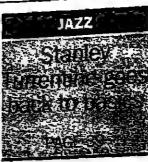






COMEDY Johnny Vegas and the art of incompetence

# THE





# The Bard trod these boards



Henslowe and Edward Alleyn

in 1587, it was an actors' thea-

t was on the last day of January ten years ago that archaeologist Julian Bowsher's trowel struck gold on the south bank of the Thames, next to Southwark Bridge. Actually it was "chalky white stuff", but it was the first sight of what turned out to be an outer wall of the Rose Theatre, the first and probably last of the Bankside Elizabethan playhouses to be unearthed. Built by Philip

tre where Shakespeare began to learn his trade first as an actor and then as a dramatist. and where most of Marlowe's works had their first nights. A reconstruction of the Rose. made at Shepperton Studios. stars in the film Shakespeare in Love, which opens tomorrow (see review opposite). And Judi Dench, a trustee of the Rose Theatre Trust who also plays Queen Elizabeth in the film, is now the proud owner of the life-sized re-creation of the Rose's interior, having

bought it from the film company. She plans to use it as a teaching aid for young actors. Bowsher's find led to six months of discoveries and to desperate pleas for delays to the new building that was due to go up on the site, so that more could be uncovered. A determined band of luvvies staked a claim to the ruins. and when time had finally run out for the dig, they stood shoulder to shoulder with Peggy Ashcroft around the soggy pit. They won the battle, and now the site is to be opened again to the public, with some

Hollywood has benefited from the excavation of the Rose Theatre, as Simon Tait reports

of the cream of British theatre lending their support.
English Heritage has scanned the remains and declared them to be in good condition, and work has begun to prepare the site for an exhibition opening at Easter which will help to raise the £8 million needed to finish excavating the theatre. A bid for lottery funding is to be made later this year and re-excavation should

start in two years' time.

Protected since 1992 as a listed ancient monument, the Rose is now under the control of the Rose Theatre Trust whose chairman, Harvey Sheldon, was the chief archaeologist on the site ten years ago. "We were forced to leave the Rose before we had finished the job, and it has always been our intention to complete the excavation if we could raise the funds," he says. "We are determined that once the door is open to the Rose it will never

he gloriously passionate campaign ten years ago by actors and archaeologists included making a human fence around the blackened, halfburied timbers, and an allnight vigil during which Laurence Olivier made his final public performance (he died a month later) with the rallying "O for a muse of fire" speech from Henry V. A major rethink was subsequently ordered and the planned new building was redesigned with an extra basement to contain the remains within a cement shell. The developers were told



for a future display and the possible return of the archaeol-

Now the Rose lies beneath a subterranean pool, like some urban Atlantis, with the water keeping its ancient timbers alive. The exhibition is being designed by Bill Dudley of the National Theatre, who is creating a kind of animated hologram, conjured with the advice of special effects designers Imagination and with images of the theatre from Shakespeare in Love. The Rose will rise out of the black water while Sir Ian McKellen provides the commentary.

"The basement was built with slatted windows which make the site reminiscent of a cathedral or a castle, and you can clearly sense the passing of time," says Dudley. "It's got you could think that a hand with a quill could come out of it, like Excalibur. I didn't think we could have quite such a dramatic space."

If production costs can be raised. Sir Peter Hall will produce a video for the exhibition including excerpts from four of the plays which were first performed here - Marlowe's Dr Faustus and Tamburlaine the Great, Shakespeare's Henry VI Part I and Thomas Kyd's The Spanish Tragedy. Actors Antony Sher and Albert Finney are expected to take part. The finds at the Rose have in-

fluenced the re-creation of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, almost next door, from fundamentals such as the orientation of the stage to the proportions of the groundlings' yard. Even now there is a friendly

the pillars supporting the stage roof, the Rose information having confused matters because two stages from different dates were found.

The discovery of the Rose meant a complete re-evaluation for the profession," says Hall. "I was brought up to believe that the Elizabethans worked on a simple thrust stage, but with the Rose we found that it was a traverse, stage, a stage of one door opening on to another, of visible mystery, a stage on which an actor could command everybody from a single platform. Now we either have our thea-

tres so big that we have to yell or so small that you can't yell. "But actors built this theatre. The Rose was the beginning of the most important theare culture in history."

# City friends in need

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION

Fox Pathé, 15, 1998 **JENNIFER** ANISTON'S search for the perfect vehicle to consolidate her leap from TV to Hollywood continues with this mildly pleasing but overcontrived romantic comedy about the mismatched love relationship between a gay man (Paul Rudd) and a woman expecting a baby. Script and directing help the players to skate over any real pain they might be feeling; Nigel Haw-thorne adds some class as an acerbic theatre critic; and New

need to escape from reality. THE GINGERBREAD

York City looks unfailingly

lovely. Rent it if you urgently

PolyGram, 15, 1998 WHAT is a veteran maverick like Robert Altman doing directing a John Grisham story? Kennedh Branagh (surprising casting) plays a successful law-yer in Savannah, led into NEW ON VIDEO

murky waters by Embeth Davnight stand. She tells of being stalked by her father, a religious nut (Robert Duvail): Branagh gets him arrested. The plors improbable progression does not suit Altman's free-flowing style, but he compensates with some wonderful atmospheric effects. A rental release.

**E** GO NOW BBC, 15, 1995 IN THIS BBC film hot direc-

Paul Rudd is the object of Jennifer Aniston's affection

tor: Michael Winterbottom buckles down with energy and compassion to the simple human predicament of a man fighting multiple scierosis. In these speedy 80 minutes there is no room for maudlin sentiment, the usual tone of films. about diseases. Robert Carlyle is immensely appealing as the ordinary Joe hero, a plasterer and an amateur soccer player, put to the test when MS strikes. Juliet Aubrey is his

sufferer Paul Powell.

LONG ISLAND

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CHETTIME

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TOTALK

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DONTLIKE

Pox Pathé, 15, 1998 AN ENGLISH writer untainted by the 20th century (John Hurt) chances upon an American teen movie, and falls hopelessly in love with one of its players (Jason Priestley). The first half of this adaptation of Gilbert Adair's novel is a droll delight, with Hurt quite wonderful as the bemused back number suddenly enchanted by popular culture. A pity that once Long Island is reached, and the writer confronts his stance shows, and its charms wear thin. A rental release.

MASTER OF THE HOUSE

BFI Films, U, 1925 DENMARK'S director Carl Theodor Dreyer is not usually associated with comedy, but this wonderful silent film ripples with observant digs at domestic relations between man and woman. "What fools we men are!" says Victor Frandsen's tyrant husband near the end. But that is only after the tables have been turned and a lesson learnt by the man when nanny to distraction. Dreyer's care over settings is evident; so is his command of actors, and his special ability to strip situa-tions to the tender core. The print is decent, and the accompanying soundtrack of classi-cal snippets unobtrusive.

GEOFF BROWN

### CONE OF THE BEST BRITISH FILMS OF THE DECADE"

"IF WATSON & GRIFFITHS DON'T GET AN OSCAR NOMINATION, I'LL EAT MY OBOE"

CONE OF THE BEST DRAMATIC PICTURES THIS DECADE'



"ONE OF THE MOST **AMBITIOUS** BRITISH FILMS SEEN FOR SOMETIME... A FILM OF REAL COMMITMENT AND INTELLIGENCE

\*\*\*\* "EVOCATIVE, PASSIONATE, AUDACIOUS... **MOVING"** 

"OUTSTANDING"

TWO SISTERS. TWO LIVES. ONE LOVE...

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Now Showing In The West End And February 12 Nationwide

# Surprised on my sick bed

I thought about coverage of the wedding of Carla Germaine and Greg Cordell. They married on Monday, the day they met, having won a compe-tition arranged by BRMB, the Birmingham commercial radio station, whose frequency is now engraved on the happy couple's wedding rings. It doesn't get more romanne

than that. Obviously I had planned to drive to the Midlands so that I could hear the whole thing on BRMB. But by a

terrible stroke of good fortune I was struck down with influenza and have had to spend the past five days in a darkened room, living on

grapes and water. And radio. The thing about radio heard randomly and at great length is that it enables one to test the present widespread belief that the medium lacks surprises. Admittedly I came across nothing as sur-prising as the level of my own body temperature, but radio still has its quirks and oddities. Trouble is, most of these now take the form of stories about real life.

Shortly before the radio wedding magnanimously reported by Radio 4's Today programme, I was startled out of slumber by a news item on, I think, Radio 5 Live. It went like this: "Gay Manchester Professionals have had to change their name because the Greater Manchester Police have objected, having already registered the initials GMP. Gay Manchester Professionals will now be known as Manchester Gay Professionals." Well, it surprised me. But

expect you have rushed to the thing that surprises me in this space to find out what the broader sense is that people who complain about radio lacking surprises (they usually mean Radio 4) seem to have a determinedly narrow idea of what constitutes a surprise. For me, a programme that de-fies all attempts to prejudge it is the best surprise radio can

> There were two examples on Monday and both were on Ra-dio 4. Dead Men Tell No Tales was a beautifully crafted play by Kelvin Segger which melded three Emile Zola short

stories into one. using the linking device of a man telling the stories to an acquaintance The formula may be routine, but the execution was superb. The pick of the three, at least

insofar as it rellected the best of Zola's macabre side, had Michael Maloney as a man who wakes up one day to find that everyone around thinks he is dead. He can neither move nor speak, except to us, the listeners. He is still speaking to us when the coffin lid is

And then there was F.W. de Klerk, who appeared on Start The Week to promote his book. This had the makings of a mauling, given the presence of Jeremy Paxman, John Pilger and Thomas Kennealy. But it was no contest. De Klerk was ponderous, insistent, repetitive, maddeningly stub-

He had made mistakes, but only in the sense that we all make mistakes ... that sort of thing. He left the ring without a mark on him. That was the

PETER BARNARD



# Viagra for the mind—and Will

**NEW MOVIES:** James Christopher

sees Paltrow shine and Fiennes

smoulder in Shakespeare in Love

ne of the great grudges have against the film industry is that it steals the lifeblood of theatre and gives back next to nothing. Then along trots a film like John Madden's Shakespeare in Love with the most thrilling, sentimental and hilarious plug for the stage that I have ever seen, and suddenly have ever seen, and suddenly have ever seen, and suddenly have ever seen to be cast in it.

There is plenty to be thrilled about. If you don't look deeper than the words "romantic comedy" you'll find a ripping yarn about a struggling, upstart scribe called William Shakespeare with serious quill problems: sexual as well as inky. Not only is he suffering chronic writer's block, but he hasn't had sex since he disched his wife in Stratford months before, "It's like trying to pick a lock with a wet herring," says Joseph Fiennes's depressed Will, limply throwing himself on the couch of Antony Sher's quack psychiatrist. A muse is what Will needs.

Someone to get the juices flowing so he can start his epic, Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter, for Geoffrey Rush's seedy theatre owner, Henslowe. Inspiration is at hand. During the audition from hell with the usual stutterers, dwarfs and drunks, Willbumps into Gwyneth Paltrow's rich, stage struck Viola, disguised as Torn Kent, who duly lands the role of Romeo. Their secret affair blooms through moustaches and tights, and Will suddenly finds his first major masterpiece flowing from his guille.

flowing from his quill. The magic of this beefy romance is that the play not only maps their lovelife, but races ahead to plot their destiny. But the sly genius of the film is the way the writers Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard bring a thoroughly modern sensibility to the daily pitfalls of theatre folk in the Renaissance. It's the Blackadder/Monty Python factor. The mean streets of Southwark are close, mucky and claustrophobic. People are routinely splattered with pots of urine. Feuding playhouses fight for the same impoverished, plague-ridden audiences. Writers are two a penny. And the Thames is crawling with ferrymen who say "I had that Christopher Mar-

lowe in my boat once."

Colin Firth is the only real villain. Wonderfully grunny, he is naked self-interest buttoned into the dastardly Lord Wessex, who has earmarked Paltrow's hand and fortune with the blessing of the Queen. "Too late" mutters Judi Dench's terrifying monarch

Shakespeare
in Love
Empire
15, 123 mins
Thrilling romantic
comedy about the broke
and blocked Bard
Stepmom
UCI Whiteleys

12, 124 mins
Squelchy divorce movie
with Julia Roberts and
Susan Sarandon
Very Bad Things
Warner Village
West End, 18, 100 mins

Macabre comedy thriller that shocks a stag party

Two Girls
and a Guy

Virgin Haymarket
15, 84 mins

Studenty chamber
piece tests sexual
fidelity and truth

A Man and a
Woman

ABC Swiss Centre
PG, 103 mins
Weak, whimsical French
love story from the 1960s

when half-a-dozen fur cloaks hit the puddle she has just waded through on her way to her coach.

The irreverent joy of Shake-speare in Love is that it's knocked into shape by a series of accidents. This is vintage Stoppard. Normally, as in Arcadia, he places some jaded scholar at this end of the millennium to field these accidents and wrap them in some sort of academic fallacy. Here the fielders are us and, no, we don't want to do any intellectual stretches because we like our greatest cultural icon to look like the foolish, infatuated human being we hope he was.

here are romantic niggles. Is Paltrow more infatuated with the poetry than the man? "I love you beyond poetry" is the most insincere line in the script: Yet, dressed as the vulnerable Romeo, or undressed as the sensuous Viola, Paltrow delivers the most convincing and mesmerising performance of the film. Fiennes's Will is magnificently moody. The studied tilt of the head, the hairy glimpse of cleavage, the smouldering stare are things few would dare to attempt even in the privacy of their own bathroom. But he doesn't sink many boreholes of illumination into the Bard.

For all the chest-beating about theatre, this is ultimately a victory for film. Director John Madden may have inno-

Gwyneth Paltrow and Joseph Flennes in Shakespeare in Love. "If more films were as revealing about the haphazard magic of theatre I'm not sure there would be much theatre left to watch"

cently set out to martyr a few sacred theatrical cows. What he actually ends up with is a sophisticated l6th-century spin on Robert Altman's Hollywood satire, The Player. If more films were as revealing about the haphazard magic of theatre I'm not sure there would be much theatre left to watch. The luvvies may have a rooint efter all

Despite the lip-trembling efforts of Julia Roberts and Susan Sarandon, Stepmom has little to recommend it apart from a high Kleenex factor. Trendy fashion photographer Isabel (Roberts) has moved in

LINKS

WEBSITES:
Statespeare in Love: www.usp.com
Stapenous www.sory.com
Two Sites and a Gry: www.fcr.co.uk
Very Bad Things.
www.woycasbings.com
TELEVERORS
Barry Northwal's Fibe Middl.

Sky Premier Monday 9pm Blorie Chartshow, Channel 5, Wadnesday 4.40am RANO: with Ed Harris, a lawyer, and his two spoilt, prickly children, cute Ben and spiteful Anna. Former wife and perfect earth-mother Jackie (Sarandon) can barely bring herself to acknowledge her lusticus young successor. The kids bristle with resentment at having to shuttle between the two women. Liam Aiken's Ben is mostly just cheeky. Jena Malone's 12-year-old Anna was minted in hell. Insanely eager to please, Roberts persists like a hopeless Mary Poppins. Meanwhile, Harris

looks on feebly, as if he has per-

manent indigestion.

Things turn unbelievably squelchy when Sarandon announces she has terminal cancer. "It should have been me," groans Harris as if antacid tablets wouldn't, melt in his mouth. Can Roberts win the kids around before their mother dies? Can Surandon bury her hatchets in something more appropriate than Roberts's forehead? Director Chris Columbus squeezes every mushy drop of sentiment he can from his close-ups of the dewy-eyed kids. He could get locked up for this kind of ma-

Marriage gets an equally rough ride in Peter Berg's black comedy, Very Bad Things. "It's an 18-wheel cement truck that's going to break every bone in your body," quips Keith's stockbroker buddy, Mike. From the way Keith's future wife (Cameron Diaz) gets steamed up over wedding arrangements, you know this is not fanciful thinking. But comedy is a deeply miskeading word to describe what happens next.

our of Keith's best male friends — all equally stressed out — escape to Las Vegas to celebrate his last days of freedom. An orgy of drink, drugs and the inevitable stripper has Blood Simple consequences when the nude dancer is accidentally impaled on a hook in the hotel bathroom. When the hotel security man pitches up, things go from very bad to downright ghastly. By the time the lads have chopped up the evidence, bagged it in suitcases and buried it in the desert, they've turned from regular obnoxious jocks into five eyeball-rolling, over-acting neurotics led by Christian Slater's demonic estate agent

er's demonic estate agent.

From these dismal ingredients, director Berg fashions a surprisingly compelling, macabre saire on buddy movies and smug suburban aspirations. I don't know about taste, but it's a wonderful antidote to

The rest of this week's releases are equally damaged. Curiously, James Toback's chamber piece, Two Girls and a Guy, is a film that might work better at a fringe theatre venue like the Donmar. A studenty tilt at sexual fidelity and modern relationships, the film is full of foul language, tequila and angry posturing. For good reason. Two girls, standing on the doorstep of Robert Downey Jr's SoHo flat, discover that they are both supposedly longstanding girlfriends of the same flaky actor. Natasha

Wagner's tomboyish sprite, Lou, can't stop talking. Heather Graham's stunning blonde, Caria, can't stop looking disgusted. "You mean you came here to surprise him too?" winces Caria.

We're primed for a selfish, lying creep and we duly get one. The problem is that once the girls put him on the spot they don't really know what to do with him.

There are angry, gobsmacked headshots and a steady drizzle of accusations. Looking like an unshaved bloodhound, Downey takes the humiliation on the chin.

"Tm an actor," he bawis in his defence, launching into Hamlers Mad Speech to his mother. Preposterously, it works.

best original screenplay is beyond my wildest ken. Here single parents Anouk Aimée and Jean-Louis Trimignant discov-

At this point, a quirky film savaging male narcissism suddenly falls on its sword. For all the talk of monogamy, the unspoken issue now is will be make it with both girls? The question Toback's film should be asking is why are these two sexy, intelligent girls competing for this mother-fixated gizard?

No less corny is Claude Lelouch's 1966 film A Man and A Woman. Why it won two Oscars for best foreign film and yond my wildest ken. Here single parents Anouk Aimée and Jean-Louis Trindignant discover each other when they take their kids out of boarding school for the weekend. Like Shakespeare in Love, this is a love affair based on accidents. He is a chain-smoking racing driver whose wife committed suicide after he crashed dur-

She still hankers after her dead husband, a Brazilian stumman. Lelouch dresses their ro-

ing the Le Mans 24-hour race.

mance in every cinematic ef-

fect he can dream up. This in-

cludes hosing car windscreens to denote bad weather and flashing from black and white to lurid orange for no perceptible reason. He plays the same tricks with sound: terrible supermarket music, or cheesy dubbed songs. None of it enhances the planking romance.

hances the plonking romance.
Still, back to the story. After a big race, Aimée sends a telegram telling Trintignant that she loves him. He drives what seems like 22,000 miles in order to be with her. She realises she hasn't buried her husband in her own mind. Will they ever get it together? Who

SOMETIMES
IT'S EASIER
TO TALK
TO SOMEONE
YOU
DON'T LIKE.



most returnal thing in the world to want to talk it through with someone. Sometimes, though, this creates

to confide in?

An obvious choice would be a clos friend. But let's face it, we don't slway aboose our friends for their amazin

discretion. Tall one person, and you may end up reliting the world.
You may be lucky enough to be able to talk to someone in your family. Then again, you may be one of the large number of people who find talking to

embarrassing.

A gridinand or boykriend? If you can great. But sometimes we don't want to expose our weaknesses to those with

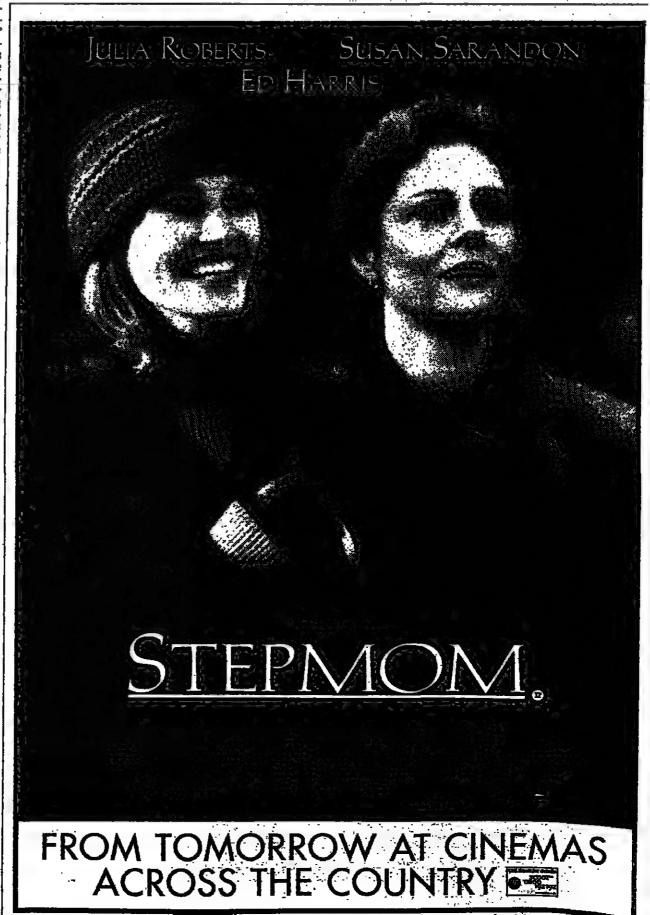
cy us. And sometimes your relationship is That's where The Sumarticans can be steful. With more discrees then your best mans, we'll listen as carefully as your girlfriend or boyfriend, and we're as sympathetic as your family. We're also son-judgemental, unahockable, and promotedy experienced.

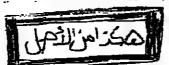
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The Samaritans





#### RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Mark Hargie

#### LONDON

THE FOREST: Alan Ayeldourn adapts Ostrovsky's sandonic 1970 correctly, with Michael Frees's impovemented autor trying to Impres his rich euro (Frees's Indiana). Anthony Page cirects. Lyttelton (0171-452 3000), Opens tonight, 7pm. In repertoire. (5)

RUSSIAN FESTIVAL: Galing Univol-HUSSIAN PESTIVAL Geome Convo-savay, a former pupil of Shostakowch and one of Russia's most important contemporary composers, is lauded in a day of words and music. The celebrations culminate in a perfor-mance by the Manson Ensemble (Duke's Hall, 7.30pm) of the UK retarnises of the composer's Second premiers of the composer's Second Symphony, True and Eletral Bless. Royal Academy of Music (0171-935 5461).

SORGOUN STRING CHARTET More Fusions music is on the monut have as the Borodine make a welcome raturn playing works by Tchaskovsky and Shostakovich. and Shostardvich. Wigmore Had (0171-935 2141), Tonight, 7.30pm. 👸

THE DEVIL'S DANCE: The opening concert in the seventh Early Music Series here features the acclaimed Auents! Paul O'Dette in an evening of tantasias, dances and varietions from Renalssance and Baroque Spain, Purcell Room (0171-960 4242), tonight, 7.30pm.

#### ELSEWHERE



Steven Osborne joins the Halle in Huddersfield

emiliance Mair. The intures optanist Lars Vogt joins the City of Birming-hant Symphony Orchestra as solois in Mozart's C minor Plano Concerto.

UIOCERSPIELD: The Halle Orchestra nder Ole Schmidt plays Rossini's inting overture to The Thewrig Magpie, ith Staven Osborne as soloist in

#### NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of thesire showing in London 🖪 House full, returns only 🖸 Some seats available 🗆 Seats at all prices

EL LYTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EUNUCHS: Ewan McGregor in the title role of a sentimentalised revived of David Helliwell's play about ant-student lailure and lescism.

Comedy (0171-389 1731).

53 OKLAHOMAI: National Theatre cast includes Melerein Lipman in vanisher of Trevor Num's Rodgers and Hammerstein. and Hammerstein. Lycoum (0171-416 6099).

N RICHARD III: Robert Lindsay puts on the hump for Elfah Moshinsky's RSC production: transfer from Savoy (0171-836 8888). 🔊

THE MEMORY OF WATER: Alson Steadman, Semantha Bond and Julia Sawaina star in Shetagh Stephenson's ed cirama of family me

IN THE STREET OF CROCODILES: Return for Theetre de Complicite's inventive slaging of Bruno Schulz's recollections of pre-Nazi Poland. Queens (0171-484 5041).

☐ VASSA: Sheila Hencock heads a terrific cast in Gorky's strong drama. Howard Davies directs a new version for the Almeida season. ry (0171-369 1730).

SPIEF CANDLE: Davis Quiley plays vangus European celebrities who full for the young Marie Bashkir self (Cella White) in the 1880s and

CERTAIN YOUNG MEN: Poter GE cirects Jeremy Northern, Seen Chapman and set other young actors in his exploration of the way today's nen ive logemer. Imeida Theatre (0171-359 4404). (5)

#### FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

#### **NEW RELEASES**

HILARY AND JACKIE (15): Anand tes l'he callest's genius. But norator it and you doower a solitor schemer who preyed on her family like a vampire. With Emily Watson and Rachel Griffiths.

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12): Sandra Bullock and Nicole Nicrean star as witches in a fissing gothic scap about asters with stall attractors. It is tempered by several seat-clutching special effects but the parable about gir power and the right to be ab-normal is too sweet to digest.

BULWORTH (18): Warren Beetty's disituationed serestor discovers a basis for beling judy home truths. A sharmetess ego trip for Beatty, but a wonderful new comits spin on political manufacturity and manufactur. Resette manipulation and mendacity. Beatty produces, stars and directs.

CLASS TRIP (15): Quirky French thritier about a school trip that is haurted by the wathing rightmens of a young boy. Claude Miller directs this award-winning piece of suspense

0171:589 8212

54 (15): Puny tarytale about a young bestcake (Ryan Prospos) who finds

THE POLYGRAPH (ICA): The results of a fit detector test turn the life of a mutter suspect and struggling student, Patrick Goyette, into a hell of injutimes possibilities. Stylich but Impenetrable mystery from Canadian guru Robert Lepage.

#### CURRENT

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)
Chilstona Ricci plays a caustic, trashly 16-year-old who stiches up her gay step-brother by treeling his boydfend and high-railing it to LA. A bistering comedy on political correctness.
Written and directed by Don Roce.

LITTLE VOICE (15): Mark Herman's wonderful version of Jim Cartwright's stage hit. Jane Hismooks sings gloribu covers of torch song divest Michael Came. Even McGregor, Brends Biethyn and Jim Broedbent sleaze around in the foreground.

Email: tril.ents@newsint.co.uk

# Tales from the body of women

hen reviewing a show of this nature one must choose one's euphemisms with care. Against a blood-red square outlined against a larger blood-red square. Eve Ensler sits on a small but generously padded chair (yes: same colour) and re-ports on vaginas. Described in the pro-

gramme - also blood-red as "writer and activist", she explains that she has interviewed hundreds of women, aged from 72 to 6, asking them how they feel about what they have. Sample: If your vagina wore something what would it be? Answers include a large hat full of flowers, high heels, lace and combat boots. The show that grew from these played Off-Broadway, stirred up much controversy and won

a couple of awards. Ensler is a neat woman, strongly built, and her face is framed within a Louise Brooks bob. From time to time she plays with the corners of her hair but mostly her hands are concerned to shift the cue cards from her lap to the table beside her as she introduces and recites, sort of, the monologues she has constructed

from selected interviews. My carefully chosen companion admitted that these reports got many facts and feelings right, but she passed on the question concerning the interviewees' rhapsodies when the answers went metaphoric. The entire natural world is explored to provide the images that might convey the nature of the thing.

Feminist theory argued that the vagina had to be reclaimed from patriarchal domination, and Ensler seems to have found many women who paid as little attention to it as possible until that wonderful moment when someone, generally another woman, introduced them to what they had disowned. I can go along with that, but this show unwittingly indi-cates the risk that everything else is then going to be devalued.

Men do get a look in, literally in the case of Bob, one of only two men to be awarded Ensler's praise, who sits entranced and gazes, for an



hour. Most of her show I didn't like much, and some of it I didn't like at all. There is something weird about being in an audience while a woman alone on a stage twists her mouth into unusual shapes. demonstrating a couple of doz-

en different orgasmic moans. The passionate dignity in the account by a Bosnian woman from a rape camp was marred, I felt, by the similarity of its imagery to that used by women in Kansas or seeming ly anywhere. Ensier explains that she has rewritten some of the stories, but that certainly reduces their value.

And then there is that sixyear-old. "What does your vagina smell like?" Reported answer: "Snowflakes." I imagined a man asking a six-year old boy what he left his penis smelt like. Would his account be greeted with rapturous en-thusiasm? I don't think so.

JEREMY KINGSTON



### Old freaks of human nature

nything less enticing than spending your hard-earned holiday gawping at bearded ladies, demight find hard to imagine. Not so in less enlightened times. Along with visits to the madhouse at Bediam and the delights of a good hanging, travelling freak shows have a long history as entertainment. According to the Liverpool-based company HUB, they were still all the rage in Thirties Blackpool. A side-show featuring emaciated young women displayed in glass cases, charmingly titled The Starving Brides, was apparently the bit of the Golden Müe for several seasons.

There is a powerful story of collective in-humanity and individual despair to be told here. But HUB's production turns out to be a much gentler affair, touching only in passing on its ostensible subject. Instead, with the help of narrative, music, dance and none-too-visible video images. it attempts to evoke the texture of the fleet-



ing images of the past embalmed in the failing memory of an elderly woman.

All airy sensations and ghostly glimmers, and as much about ballroom dancing and trips to the tarot reader as the sad human spectacle she witnessed in her youth, too much is going on here to too lit-tle purpose. There is a lot of portentous repetition of platitudes about the ghosts inside. Paula Hampson pirouettes and cartwheels around, representing the woman's carefree youth, and later does much the

Underneath it all, though, lies a delicate enough analogy between the luckless bride and the wuman whose memory she haunts. The possible explanation for the former's self-abandonment — the shock of

being deserted, reality slipping away, succumbing to a comforting dream-state finds an echo in the latter's retreat into age, in other words, is like living in a glass case - feeding on memories, little understood by others. As the speciators cannot fathom the bride's state of mind, so the old woman's experiences clude the audience.

All well and good; but in attempting to tell a story about the impossibility of reli-ing other people's stories, the script ends up more insubstantial than ethereal. The two performers, though, sustain a strain of elegiac melancholy, aided by the origi-nal music performed live by a five-strong ensemble. Esther Wilson impresses, turning in a touching performance as the absent-minded old woman and, briefly, an enjoyably acerbic one as the disreputable mackintoshed impresario who runs the whole sorry show.

NIGEL CLIFF

### No lapse of stout party

lose to midnight, more than three hours after his show had begun, the fat drunk holding the microphone was leading a ragged singalong of American Pie. Who knows why. At the back of the room the waiters were impatiently clearing the glasses from the tables, waiting for what was left of the audience to go home. But you know what drunks are like: they are never happy until they have bellowed out 2 chorus or two of New York, New York. Only then would the embittered potter turned entertainer from St. Heiens stagger.

off the stage.
It was, frankly, a shambles. but quite a clever shambles in its way. An evening with John ny Vegas amounts to a clever study in the art of incompetence. His singing voice is reminiscent of Bernard Manning at bathtime, and the vases he proudly spins on his potter's



wheel look more like bloated fertility symbols. The one thing he really excels at is picking verbal fights with members of the audience. Deepdown, you know it is all theather, but he weaves a wholly compelling self-portrain, lurching from boorishness to learful self-pity in an instant as be recounts his dismal childhood. And somehow, without relying on a single conventional punchline, it is shatteringly iumy. Unlike most club comedy,

the swagger conceals genuine tenderness and real scat-ofthe pants spontaneity. Vegas's creator, Michael Pennington. has reached a crossroads of sorts now. Vegas, after all, is supposed to be a professional failure who lives off memories of his salad days as a Butlin's redocat. Now that he has been feted at Edinburgh and has acin the form of a biscuit manufacturer), the illusion is harder to maintain. The audience can sometimes be too knowing, too quick to laugh at his bombast and his wonderful, tortured metaphors. Women sitting near the stage now respond to his clumsy advances, which is surely not the point at all ..

The show that runs at the Talk of London until Saturday is a mix of old and new. The final segment ran far too long, the chaos and maudlin ramblings seemed too real for comfort. Still, true genius lies hidden inside that beer-belly.

WYNDRIAMS 388 1738/344

ART

CLIVE DAVIS

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Cred

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tanley Turrentine is seen by many jazz aficio-nados as a gifted and in-

dividual player who, for much

of his career, was lost to the

music, succumbing to the blan-

dishments of pop and the de-mands of the Top 200.

As anyone who's heard Tur-

rentine sashay innocuously through the likes of *Little* 

Green Apples, The Look of Love or Elusive Butterfly will

confirm, jazz and pop do not

mix casily, so it was some-thing of a relief to see the 64-year-old tenorman take the

Jazz Cafe stage with a trio of topflight British jazz musi-

cians playing acoustic instru-

ments: planist Joe Bashorun, bassist Gary Crosby and drummer Winston Clifford.

Turrentine is at heart a

blues player, so a lightly swing-

ing opener in the medium

warmed both him and his

band up perfectly, and even

JAZZ

Stanley Turrentine

Jazz Café

gave the latter a chance to slip

easily into what is practically a

local rhythm: reggae. Clearly

delighted with their sparky re-

sponsiveness, Turrentine got

down to business, calling, in

quick succession, a relatively

tricky Billy Taylor composi-tion, Duke Ellington's luxuri-ous ballad In a Sentimental Mood and the Coltrane classic

To this varied fare Turren-

tine brought all his elegance

and easygoing fluency. Hav-

ing one of the most individual

saxophone sounds in jazz - a

combination of earnest wispi-

ness and sharp, bluesy snap -

gives him a head start, but it is

his sheer experience, laced

with wit (quotes from Grieg, I

Found a New Baby and My Fa-

Paper Moon in the Taylor)

that carries the day.

Impressions.

# A million-pound biblical prize

VISUAL ART: An epic Spencer painting has been

bought for the nation and Richard Cork is delighted

ne of Stanley Spen-cer's most outstanding early paintings, Zacharias and Elizabeth, has been acquired for the nation. The Tate Gallery and Sheffield Galleries and Museums Trust have jointly purchased the picture from a private collector for £1,141,578. The substantial price, which reflects Spencer's growing in-

ternational reputation, was only raised with a £570,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, a National Art Collections Fund grant of £200,000, and generous sup-port from the Friends of the Tate Gallery. But Zacharias and Elizabeth was a prize well worth winning. When the 22year-old Spencer completed it in 1914, the result dramatically confirmed the emergence of a major new talent in British art.

Two years after be left the Slade School of Art, Spencer was back in his family's crowd-ed home at Cookham on Thames when he painted Za-charias and Elizabeth. He had lived in the village all his life, and regarded it as the prime inspiration for the visions that nurtured his art.

At five feet square, the canvas was the largest he had yet worked on Spencer later recalled how he painted it in the family dining-room. The table was upped up to form a makeshift casel, and "Pa was giving piano lessons on my right. To add to the congestion, "other children were lined up along the dark paper-patterned wall, mostly from the back lane school, waiting their turn" for more lessons. The young Spencer's powers of concentration must have been formidable.

However much stimulus music may have provided, Spencer took his starting-point from the New Testament. St Luke's account of the priest Zacharias and his barren wife Elizabeth, both "well stricken

nunciation of Christ's birth. For the angel Gabriel appears in the temple and tells the in-credulous Zactarias that Elizabeth will give birth to a son who would become John the Baptist But Spencer was inde-pendent enough to take enor-mous liberties with his biblical source. The temple has van-ished, and in its place a Cookham garden becomes the

setting for the miracle.
He based it on the view from a cottage owned by Jack Hatch, a friendly local coalman. Spencer was allowed to wander at will through the garden, absorbing its atmosphere

He was independent enough to take enormous

liberties with his source?

so completely that he would be able to convey its charged meaning in paint. Dominated by the stripped trees of Cliveden Wood extending to the horizon, it is a winter scene. The angel, who adopts a tilting, almost balletic pose in the centre, seems well wrapped up against the cold. Zacharias, making a sacrifice at his altar in the foreground, appears reluctant to acknowle the angelic presence. But he looks strangely spellbound, as though beld in fearful suspense by his awareness of an impending event.

So do all the other characters in this compelling drama. Zacharias reappears in the background, half-hidden by a fence and gazing distractedly jun years, prefigures the An-attention to his wife, even

though she stands next to him with her back to the viewer. Elizabeth's seeming unwillingness to be seen is reinforced by her curious decision to plunge her right hand into a yew tree, resting it on what Spencer de-scribed as "a tray-like frond". It suggests that, like the mythological Daphne before her, she might be about to sprout imo A feeling of close, mystical

accord between humans and the landscape they inhabit can be found throughout Spen-cer's dream-like image. Elizabeth reappears, this time in profile, behind the wall near the top of the picture. She seems to be busying herself with the garden, like the bulky figure on the far right who drags some pruned branches across the ground. The brilliant winter light dances among their leaves, and Spencer delights in picking out a myriad sparkling blades of

his painstaking devotion to minutiae is reminiscent of the Pre-Raphaelites ear-ty landscapes, but he took his inspiration more directly from the early Italian masters they admired. In a letter written soon after the outbreak of war in August 1914, he declared that he would serve as a medical orderly "on condition I can have Giotto, the Basilica of Assisi book, Fra Angelico in one pocket, and Masaccio Masolino and Giorgione in the other". He liked the early Italians' tendency to repeat figtires in a painting if they so wished, and he emulated their preference for boldly summarised forms.

Hence the pared-down simplicity of the limbs and draperies to Zacharias and Elizabeth, along with his decision to counter the precision of edged shadows spread across



In his large canvas Zacharias and Elizabeth (1913-14) Stanley Spencer traded the heat of Judaea for an English garden

the lawn and up the side of the white wall. Their brooding. presence gives the painting an ominous air, as if they might soon snuff out its illuminated areas. And Spencer's decision to make the wall so intrusive, the enlarged side of an ename! bined with the eagerness she awe by removing the scene Tate in London in the summer

bath, adds to the troubled mood. While acting as a protective enclosure for Zacharias and the angel, it shuts out the anonymous female figure who balances on an uprooted tree in her effort to peer over.

Caressed by colour

displays in struggling to witness the event, increases the feeling of momentousness. Everyone in this haunting image seems arrested, as though overcome by the mystery inherent in the angelic encoun-

air, though the peaks of an-

Her skills were better dis-

played in two miniatures by

league Stenhammar: the G-

flat major Impromptu, in par-

warmth and delicacy. Ortiz

seemed properly at home, though, when she left north-

ern Europe for the recital's sec-

ond half and moved south to

music from her native Brazil.

Grieg's Scandinavian col

guish were left unscaled.

ticular, shimmered

from the heat of Judaea to the frosty Berkshire countryside. investing an everyday English garden with a sense of hushed. sacred wonder.

The picture is on show at the Graves Art Gailery, Sheffield from

Here her impulsive ebullience

and caressing touch could be given full play. There were five

exotic works by Fructuoso Vi-

anna, and two by Oscar Loren-

zo Fernández: pieces packed

rhythms, descriptive niceties

(street-song cries, fruit plum-

meting from the trees), head-

long waltzes, crunching minor

chords. Before the encores, Or-

tiz was handed two bouquets

and placed them perilously on

the piano. They brightened the

platform, but by this time no

GEOFF BROWN

"One of the FRESHEST, funniest films you'll see all year."

other colours were needed.

intoxicating cross-

A visit to Jobim's Triste (also containing a delightfully mischievous quote, this time from Rossini) allowed the celebrated Turrentine tone to wait sensuously across the gentle samba rhythm, then it was back to more vigorous material: Don't Mess with Mr T, a characteristically yearning lope written for him by Marvin Gaye. Concluding with a couple of blues numbers on which he stretched out luxuriously for chorus after chorus, Turrentine proved that you don't necessarily have to dilute jazz

CHRIS PARKER

with pop to please the crowd.

### French melodies without tears

here is more to mélo-dies than their tunes. L'invitation au vovage. as! the six-week journey through French song at St John's, Smith Square is called. takes its title from one of the most beguiting and famous milodies of Duparc a perfect fusion of poem, vocal line and piano part. Even in this first concert of

the series, which will cover 120 years of repentary from Berlioz to Poulenc and Messiaen, the supes made all these characteristics quite clear. Programme notes or really informative spoken introductions might have filled in more: instead we got Roderick Swanston's talkative talking notes, full of historical detail but saying very little about the music and almost nothing about the poets.

Fortunately, the performers did all the communicating that was needed. Unusually, the cycle was shared between two singers. The soprano Ger-aldine McGreevy held the audierge spellbound with the soft radiance of her La spectre de le rose and put a smile in her voice for L'île inconnu: Richarli Edgar-Wilson was less persuasive, though still moving in his contributions.

But then the tenor was stand-



concert he got to sing some of the less inemorable numbers: two torturous songs by Franck, for instance. His light, mellifluous tone is well suited to French music, and only some straying intonation spoilt the charm and elegance of his Gounod group. With fine support from the pianist, Simon Over, his two Duparc songs were evocative. With every performance,

McGreevy is becoming a more complete artist, and here she showed greater platform pres-ence than ever before. Excellent French and an ability to float and swell a phrase make her a natural in this music. Bizer songs were lively, though neither she nor the pi-anist caught all the seductive ness of Adieux de l'hôtesse arabe. In Faure, from the detached waitz of Le papillon et la fleur to the whispering of Après un rêve, she evoked the essence of this most central of the mélodie composers.

JOHN ALLISON

A bad wardrobe day.

Cristina Ortiz had picked a flourcy. 1970s style dress whose russet colours matched the mock parquet tiles on the platform floor, and was not too far removed from her aubimn hair or the screen placed behind her pi-ano. She was barely visible. So were there contrasting shades in her playing? At first, oddly for this performer, it seemed not: there certainly could have been more poetry squeezed out of the two Poulenc Novelettes that launched her recital of largely out-of-the-way pieces, part of the Harrods Interna-

tional Piano Series. But then she arrived at the shy, insimuating art of Federi-co Mompou, and she started making love to the keyboard. She played four selections

CONCERTS early pieces written in Paris be-fore the First World War, Catalan magic deliciously gar-nished with French dressing. a Ortiz Her fingers teased out the wistfulness in Sad Bird, danced with rocking rhythms in The Boat, and whirled round and

round in the Gypsy rondo. "I adore Mompou," Ortiz wrote in her programme note. With good reason, too. As sometimes happens in this Harrods series, a "live key-board relay" caught those fingers on camera and thrust them up for scrutiny on a screen. This was of limited in-

was mostly reflected in Ortiz's face, especially once she em-barked on Grieg's command-ing Ballade in G minor, written in the shadow of his parents' deaths. For Grieg these 14 variations on a sombre Norwegian folk song reflected feelings so painful that he could

never bring himself to play them in public. Ortiz responded well to their improvisatory

**CHAUSSON** Symphony in B Flat etc BBC Philharmonic/ HILARY FINCH Tortelier

> of Wagner. Ernest Chausson developed a style owing much to both, and none the worse for that. This latest disc in the excellent series from Yan Pascal Tortelier and the BBC Philharmonic, exploring the byways of the French repertoire, contains virtually all the or-chestral music of Chausson

Soir de fête, and Chausson's dances from his incidental music to Shakespeare's The Tempest complete a disc that amply demonstrates the accomplishments of a composer who might have achieved much more but for his premature death in a cycling acci-

\* Worth hearing \* \* Worth considering \* \* \* Worth buying

NEW CLASSICAL CDS: András Schiff's splendid vision and C major Sonatas; and his sustained fluency brings splen-dour to the grander visions of

MUSICAL

RODGERS AND

Martin/Tabbert/Pinza

Sony SMK 60722 \* \* \*

"WHAT do they want two basses for?" Mary Martin was

reputed to have growled when

invited to co-star with Ezio Pin-za, leading Don Giovanni of his day, in South Pacific. But Richard Rodgers knew precise-

ly what he was doing. Martin

was not just a belter. As En-sign Nellie Forbush she could

sing (Wonderful Guy) and she could swing (Honey Bun).

Rodgers responded with a se-

ries of numbers for her which

were all to become standards,

agart from a couple axed be-

fore opening night, but includ-ed as an appendix in Sony's ex-

cellent remastering of the origi-

za. as the French plantation owner Emile de Beque, who only gers one good solo. But what a song! One Enchanted

Evening makes up for such par-

simony and Pinza, in his late

fifties, puts it across with all

the charm that had made him

the darling of the Met. Charm

of a lighter kind comes from

William Tabbert as Lt Cable, and the US Marines match the brass of Salvatore dell'Isola's

band for lustiness. A delight.

JOHN HIGGINS

nal 1949 cast recording. He was less generous to Pin-

HAMMERSTEIN

South Pacific

terest any emotion and drama

#### RECITAL **HAYDN**

András Schiff Teldec 0630-17141-2 \* \* \* £30.99

HAYDN is no longer, per-haps, quite so grossly neglect-ed and misunderstood as András Schiff would have us believe: the playing of Alfred Brendel. Andreas Staier, the Quatuor Mosaiques and, of course, Schiff himself has seen to that. But if that be the excuse for this recording of nine Sonatas plus the C major Fan-tasia, then I'm not complain-

Schiff's playing fleshes out his own informed and invaria-bly wise decisions on questions of articulation, accentuation and embellishment. And. thanks to Teldec's immaculately engineered recording, these two discs also reveal beautifully Schiff's characteristic sensitivity to touch, honouring the sound of the pianos of Haydn's time with their shallower keys and smaller hammers. It's just a pity that, given Schiff's often vociferously expressed views on the merits and demerits of different modem pianos, we are not told which instrument he is using

No one can tell Haydn's okes quite as brilliantly as Brendel. But then few can play the innocent as aptly and con-vincingly as Schiff. He does it delightfully in the G minor

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#### ORCHESTRAL

Chandos Chan 9650 \* \* \*

PUPIL of Franck but disciple

that survives. The influence of Franck is heard in the Symphony in B flat (Chausson's only completed work in the genre), both in its soundworld and in its cyclic recurring themes. The Wag-ner of Die Walküre, on the other hand, comes to mind in the symphonic poem Viviane, where the enchantress of that name casts spells to music strongly reminiscent of the Magic Sleep in that opera.

Another symphonic poem

MILLINGTON

BEST lines, all the best situations and all "...graced with two of the BEST FEMALE the best performances you'll see this year... John Naughton O Magazine performances." "...little short of MIRACULOUS." iicci donovan kudrow lovett NOW SHOWING AT SELECTED CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY



### BOOKS

# Honey still for tea

Once more unto the brink: peering over the rim of the last millennium,

Ian McIntyre files his report

grandpapa?" Different things to different people, my dear. To the prosaic, a period of 1.000 years. To those who take the Book of Revelation literally, an apocalyptic vision of Christ return-ing to impose direct rule. To a latter-day Candide, the happy state to which the United Kingdom will be reduced when the perfectibility-men of new La-Damn the child, she's just like esting Pilate.

We are not quite at the stage of having to call in Max Clifford, but the pre-publicity for the Second Millennium Show is not entirely what its sponsors might have wished. Episcopal sogginess? The vapourings of those swaying in the howdah of the great white elephant of Greenwich? Corag-gio! For those who feel that the times are out of joint, that they are barrling some sort of premillennial hangover before the party has even begun, Robert Lacey and Danny Dan-ziger have concocted a delight-

THE YEAR 1000 By Robert Lacey and **Danny Danziger** Little, Brown, £12.99 ISBN 0 316 643750

ful and refreshing pick-me-up. "It was an oak tree that pro-vided the ink, from a boil-like pimple growing out of its bark A wasp had gnawed into the wood to lay its eggs there, and, in self-defence, the tree formed a gall round the intrusion, circular and hard-skinned like a crab-apple, full of clear acid." Not a bad opening for authors who describe themselves modestly as "working journalists". In a mere 200 pages they have compiled a col-ourful and highly entertaining

[OOO]

Anglo-Saxon England at the turn of the first millennium. It s as stylish a popular social history as one could find. They give credit for much of the leg-work to Nina Drummond. It was her idea to cast the book in the form of a calendar, a month per chap-ter, to mimic the rhythm of life in the year 1000. They took as their model the Julius Work Calendar, produced in the studio of Canterbury Cathe-dral around AD 1020, and it is

admirably. it was a much emptier world than ours - one person for every 40 or 50 today. A stur-

which works

Saxons, apparently, and not much shorter in stature than we are, even though they had no spinach. (Popeye would only have flourished after the return of the Crusaders.) There was no tea or sugar, either, although there was plenty of honey - the Anglo-Saxons were much cleverer bee-keepers than the Romans. Lampreys were plentiful, and imports of salt whale blubber were available, too, for those

Social life was notably static. Lacey and Danziger sug-gest that the closest modern parallel would be with "the restricted and repetitious circle encountered in

who liked that sort of thing.

soap operas. (They should brace themselves for intemperate protests from the National Federation of Archers Fan Clubs.) There were no playing cards, although there was backgammon, and a form of noughts and crosses known as ticktacktoe; the Anglo-Saxons also went in for elaborate rid-dies, full of salacious referenc-

es to hairy onions and the pleasures of butter churning. The National Health Service still lay some way in the future, and was therefore not yet in crisis. In the absence of Viagra, those who felt themselves insufficiently virile turned to the herb agrimony and boiled

(cooked in Welsh ale, however, it had the contrary effect). Lower-back pain was believed to respond to the smoke of smouldering goats' hair, and baldness retreated before an ointment made from the ashes of burnt bees.

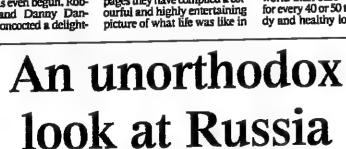
American readers will feel better for knowing that every one of the words Neil Armstrong uttered when he stepped onto the Moon was al-ready part of Old English by the year 1000. Lacey and Danriger also point out that much of the earthier language often described as "Anglo-Saxon" is nothing of the sort. Opponents of the Maastricht treaty will

cause when they learn that fokkinge, cunte and crappe are all much later imports, probably coming from Holland in the later Middle Ages.

It was an age of faith: "Peo-ple believed as fervently in the power of saints bones as many today believe that wheat hran or jogging or psychoanal-ysis can increase the sum of human happiness." I particularly enjoyed the account of the permitted signs by which otherwise sileni monks might communicate, all set out in the Monasteriales Indicia: "One gets the impression that mealtimes in a Benedictine refectory were rather like a gathering

Shipbuilding, year 1000-style, from a section of the Bayeux Tapestry: life was quieter but some things stayed the same — people amused each other telling jokes about hairy onions ly beckoning, squeezing their earlobes, meaningfully rubbing their fingers up and down the sides of their noses. and smoothing their hands

over their stomachs." Lacey and Danziger could not quite decide how to end their book, and they do so rather lamely (Whether we today display more wisdom or com-mon humanity is an open question ... "), but that is a minor biemish. The Year 1000 could be read with profit by many whose approach to historical writing is much more ponder-ous. It is an elegant and pain-less lesson in how to combine serious purpose with lightness of touch.



ew Year is the time Russians. when trained by years of state sponsored atheism, celebrate the pagan aspects of Christmas by feasting, putting presents beneath a decorated tree and fighting with their families. But Russians have more cause than most to drink themselves into oblivion as they celebrate the approach of the new millennium this year: for Russia has endured a bloody and bitter 20th century. An aura of suffering hovers like a martyr's halo over most of the pieces in the absorbing new issue of Granta.

Typically, it is the contribu-tions by foreigners that reveal an overt preoccupation with history. Orlando Figes sets the tone in his observations on the burial of the murdered family of Tear Nicholas II in St Peters burg last year. Shocked by the general indifference to the proceedings themselves and the symbolism of the act, Figes, a Cambridge historian, offers

■ GREAT disappointment

attending the Whithread

**Book Awards on Tuesday** 

historian Amanda Foreman

award for Biography of the Year . . . fully clothed.

THE OUP row rumbles on

(see also Bibliomane, oppo-

site). Reports reach us of a

meeting of the Oxford English

Faculty Board on Monday, at

which Ivon Asquith. manag-

ing director of OUP's academ-

ic division, tried to justify the

loss of the poetry list to the as-

sembled dons. He proclaimed

that dropping the poets had

saved the firm the tremendous

sum of — wait for it — E13,000.

Church-mouse academics

might be forgiven for thinking

even they could club together

HARRY POTTER may

have missed the Whitbread

Children's Book Award by a

whisker, but he will still cast

station in London today when

muggles from all over Britain

will discover that they too can

find Platform 94 for a trip on

a steam train into his magic

world. Harry's creator, J. K.

reading, and the mysterious

transformation of her second

book, Harry Potter and the

Chamber of Secrets, into

paperback. A time capsule

containing predictions by

Rowling, will be giving a

event celebrates the

his spell over King's Cross

to restore the list.

in the glitterati crowd

night. The delightful

author of Georgiana,

Duchess of Devonshire.

showed up to collect her

NATASHA FAIRWEATHER

RUSSIA: THE WILD EAST Granta, Issue 64 £7.99 ISBN 0903141 248



contradictory advice. At first he advocates the study of history as the only balm for Russia's national wounds, but then he recommends that Russia should cast the past aside in order to focus on the challenges of a difficult future.

DIARY

& LETTERS

Harry Potter book, due to be

published in five years' time,

will be buried. Long may the

Barnes enjoyed being on the

probably because so many of

the contenders might be his

friends. In Paris, he voted

novel called Les particules

Houellebecq, which had been banned from the Prix

*élémentaires* by Michel

Goncourt because of its

outrageous sex scenes. He

had always thought there

literary prizes, but he was

vote. However, he was

not offered a centime for his

invited on to the French one

World at One if I had shot a

postman or been accused of

o'clock TV news to discuss

his work — in Britain, he

said, "I would only be on

molesting a child".

was a rather doubtful

background to French

for the winning book, a

children for the seventh

THE novelist Julian

jury for the French Prix

been invited on to to a

British literary jury --

Novembre. He has never

magic last!

Colin Thubron finds Rus sians doing this anyway in his lyrical meander around the Siherian town of Omsk. He shadows a hearty group of predominantly female pilgrims as they dig the foundations for a monastery in a place where countless thousands of victims of a Soviet gulag lie buried in mass graves. Troubled by the ease at which the past is buried and forgotten, but affected by the mid-summer gaiety around him. Thubron begins to view "Russia's atheist past", and by extension the Soviet era. as "no more than an overcast day in the long orthodox summer".

The Soviet era seems more like the eternal night of a Siberian winter to the inhabitants of Norilsk, the nickel-mining town perched on the Arctic Circle. The population, made up predominantly of former prisoners and guards from the nearby Soviet camps, have never dealt with their complicity in the outrages of the past, but they have found common

A great deal has been writ-

ten about Anne Frank but, per-

haps surprisingly, there has not been a full-scale biogra-

phy yet. Soon there will be

three. This spring (when Anne

Frank would have been 70) Vi-

king is bringing out a book

called Roses From the Earth

by Carol Ann Lee. Blooms-

bury has a translation of a

German biography by Melissa Muller, and Macmillan

has another German biogra-

phy aimed mainly at children, this one by Miriam Pressler.

who edited the diaries. But the

story of Anne Frank is becom-

ing the mystery story of Anne

Frank. All three books set out

to discover who it was that real-

ly betrayed the Frank family

■ EVERYTHING has a liter-

ary flavour in France. For the

millennium, the French are

meridian" - a line of 10,000

Dunkirk to Prats-de-Mollo on

the Mediterranean. And what

has the Minister of Culture.

Catherine Trautmann, to say

particularly rich in symbols."

she remarked, planning the

first tree, "not only from the

point of view of aesthetics

and ecology, but also from the point of view of liberty.

because only the voluntary

acts of Frenchmen will give it

life!" Shades of Rousseau -

and Jean-Paul Sartre . . .

books@the-times.co.#k

■ E.mail ns at:

about it? "This is a work

trees along the meridian of

going to plant a "green

Paris, stretching from

to the Germans.



Fallen Statue of Stalin, Moscow, 1991 in Hope Photographs (Thames & Hudson, £18.95)

ground, according to documentary film-maker Angus Macqueen, in bemoaning the terrible present state.

Alongside a poignant memoir by Charlone Hobson of a voung Russian dreamer called Pavel Prayda who could not find a truth to believe in and overdosed on heroin, and Masha Gessen's humorous look at her grandmother's Soviet compromises, this issue of Grania would be worth reading for the short story by Andrei Platonov alone. Platonov was one of the greatest writers of the Soviet era whose proletarian roots and youthful Communist ardour made his eventual disillusionment with the system all the greater. No writer has a bleaker vision of life. The River Pocudan is a story from Platonov's 1937 collection of the same name. Magnifi-

cently translated by a team of

three, this muted love story

trembles with the pain of suppressed emotion and it asks if love is the best one can hope

for in life. Amid the gritty realism. compounded by a series of striking photographs from the Chechen war, Victor Pelevin's fantasy of how a drunkard's job interview nearly ends in a ritual suicide is an amusing introduction to the work of one of Russia's most promising contemporary novelists.

Subtle harmonies

aolo Maurensig's The Lûneburg Variation, published in Italian in 1995 and in English in 1998, was one of the most accomplished and ambitious first novels to have appeared in recem years. Canone Inverso. elegantly translated by Jenny McPhee, is its no less impressive successor.

What Maurensig's debut

did with chess, his second book does with music. The Luneburg Variation took the disciplined aggression of the board game and used it as its literal subject; as a metaphor for real violence; and as a means of organising a compiex narrative. The new novel's title refers in music to a form of imitative counterpoint whereby an ascending interval in the first voice of a canon becomes a descending one in the second. In this formal structuring device Maurensig finds not only a dramatic but a moral dimension: the two main characters of his novel are bound by an intricate relationship of dependence and imitation; if one of them advanc-

es. 1: is at the other's expense. But who is imitating whom? And how can we tell? The central narrative is set within a curning multiple framework worthy of Maurensig's compatrice Italo Calvino, or of a classic 19th-century German novella Linking the elaborate sequence of tales within tales is a violin. A fine instrument, by

BRUNSKILL CANONE INVERSO By Paolo Maurensig



the noted 17th-century Austrian maker Jacob Stainer, it has its pegs set not in the usual scroll, but in a small head with "a cruel and threatening face". How that distinguished and

sinister instrument came to be played by a vagabond entertainer in a late-night Viennese bar is the mystery at the heart of the book. Its solution lies in the history of two young musicians, the one an illegitimate boy from a modest Hungarian home, the other heir to an Aus-

trian barony. Their awkward friendship begins when they meet as po pils of the renowned Collegium Musicum, a bizarre institution run more like a prison or an asylum than a leading music school. It ends amid one.

Austrian households to which Thomas Bernhard used to do such savage justice: an isolated castle where dogs roam the halls in packs, and decrepit retainers serve dinner at seven sharp to cardinals, atheists, alchemists, and an invalid baroness who says nothing at all

but "Gustavi" Canone Inverso is plotted with the taut sophistication of a thriller. But the refinements of its construction, though dazzling, are far from gratuitous, and far from trivial in intent. Maurensig is not afraid to tackle some of the century's most challenging themes. He writes of evil and guilt; of the Holocaust; of how history makes us what we are, and how we remake our own histories. The formal artifice of his work lends a telling precision to his discussion of such things. Where other writers might resort to bombast, he achieves a rare and quite unsettling restraint.

breakers read. But what did it all mean? Dalegue was more significant than previously re-alised, and far from hasty improvisations these were ideologically motivated and long planned mass murders. But the central theme and motivating passion of Breitman's book is that the British and Americans had a clear view of what was happening and should, and could, have done more to help the Jews. Here the historian's enemy, hindsight, looms large.

#### IN metro ON SATURDAY

Up and out in London and New York: Martin Aston talks to John Cale about his autobiography, What's Welsh for Zen - from his upbringing in Wales to the Velvet Underground and his career as a solo artist ALSO: Marcel Berlins reviews the new novel by Scottish crime writer, Ian Rankin; Emily Prager's reworking of Lolita; and General Custer rides again in Evan S. Connell's Son of the Morning Star

### A disaster decoded, but. not averted

7 hat did the British and American governments, know ab out the Holocaust and could they have stopped it?

Imagine this. At Bletchley Park, spearhead of the Allies' codebreaking efforts, an intelligence analyst reads an inter-cept revealing Hitler ordering the use of Jews as forced labour on the Eastern front. A later intercept shows the commandant at Auschwitz demanding that a shipment of Dutch Jews be routed directly to his camp and not diverted for labour in Silesia. What is the decoder to make of the intercepts? Ruthless exploitation

or systematic genocide? Thousands of such documents still exist. Most remain secret. Richard Breitman, however, a distinguished Ameri-can scholar of the Holocaust, has unearthed samples released in 1997. The contents of his book, rather than its style. make it compulsive reading. Yet his decoding of the decrypts provokes questions

as well as answers. At its heart lie some 60 files of decrypts of transmissions of the SS and the German Order Police, tasked with keeping order and dealing with emergencies. It also had militarised battalions, was headed by a fer-vent Nazi, Kurt Dalegue, and carried out the mass executions of Jews in Russia. Codebreakers cracked the Order Police code as early as 1939. It contains tales of shootings,

reprisals, and executions. This is what Allied code-

Breitman recognises the danger, pointing out that the

DAVID

STAFFORD

OFFICIAL SECRETS

By Richard Breitman

Allen Lane, £20

ISBN 0 7139 9292 1:

Holocaust is a postwar term coined only after the extermination camps were discovered and the full dimensions of their horrors understood, Yel how can any of us today truly unlearn what we know? At the time Allied spokesmen and propagandists were slow to single out the Jews as special victims of the Nazis. Political calculation here was obvious not least the fear of fuelling Zionist demands over Palestine.

reitman, understanda bly, is critical of this. But an historian of intelligence might also ask about the broader codebreaking context. Evidence of crimes against the Jews was irrefutable. But what did the decrypts reveal about massacres of other groups — Serbs. Polish intellectuals, Gypsies. for example? How easily could it be concluded that a Holocaust, as distinct from separate atrocities, was taking place? We need comparative data to understand the chal-

lenge the analysts faced. Churchill has had a good press over his reaction to Hitler's treatment of the Jews, but-Breitman reveals an unex-plained curiosity here. The Prime Minister avidly read decrypts of Order Police and SS killings over the summer of 1941. Then the Secret Intelligence Service decided that his future briefings would not cover such material because it was now obvious what it contained. Did the decision reflect Churchill's wish, or that of someone else? Had he grown weary of it all, or did his intelligence chiefs fear that he might let slip the source of his know edge and thus alert the enemy to Bletchley Parks war-winning exploits? There are intriguing hints that this might have been the reason. But that.

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### **BOOKS**

When depression and identity meet

### A poet for the people

ISBN 185242 127 4

LANGSTON HUGHES, dubbed the "Negro Poet Laure-ate", wrote verse to sing in the bath, shout in mid-argument and hum under your breath on the way to work. For 40 years antil his death in 1967, Hughes wrote about what he knew best the lives of ordi-nary blacks in the United States Breaking with the more traditional meters of the European school, these jazz-influenced poems and lyrics, such as Song For Billie Holiday, he Weary Blues and Misery, mesmerise with their easy rhythm and sweet simplicity.

#### Too tall tales

SHETANIGANS An Authology of Frest Irish Fiction Sceone, £6,99 ISBN 0 340 71269 4

SHENANIGANS will win prizes for pretentiousness if nothing else. In the publicity which accompanies this portfolio of hish writers, co-editor Sarah Champion reveals her ambition "to become a digital" nomad travelling the world with just a Powerbook and a mobile. The writing itself — with the exceptions of Bridget O'Conror's The Alien Invasion and Colum McCarm's As if There Were Trees - reads like sixtl form essays: light on plot and heavy on clanging pop-drugs references.

#### Call time

SIDEREALITIME By Christ Seren, £7:95----TSBN 1 85411 239 2

A SIDEREAL year is measured by the apparent motion of the stars, and is longer than a solar year by 20 minutes 23 seconds. This is, arguably, the mest locid part of Christopher Miredith's third novel. Although his central question is one of the most interesting in metaphysics - how do we come to terms with being transent beings in an infinite Univirse? — he does not get beyand the premise. His impossiby clusive experimental prose and unsympathetic characters turn a fascinating subject into a turgid waste of time.

1. 克·拉克

#### Latin loves

LICKY IN LOVE canet, £9.95 GBN 1857542882'

FORMER Minister of Cul-

ure for the Portuguese Govrnment, David Mourão-Fereira chooses Lisbon in the ears following the bloodless evolution of 1974 as the backprop to his tale. A sculptor, tho is experiencing the sort of scond coming of age we read about in glossy mags, reviews the women who have moulded him into the figure he is. What ersues is a story of two love affairs, tantalising enough to make the least prim Arts Minister blush like a schoolgirl.

ALEX O'CONNELL

#### Two books on the study and experience of depression bring together the science of the brain with the mysteries of the mind

hakespeare identified the problem before the scientists. "In sooth, I know not wity I am so sad," Antonio laments Malignant sadness, Burton in The Merchant of Venice. It wearies me, you say it wearies you!/ But how I caught it, found it, or came by it./ What stuff its made of, whereof it is born/ I am to learn:/ And such a want-wit sadness makes of me,/ That I have much ado to know myself." If Antonio does not know him-

self, what can he know? He sees the world around him in relation to himself, he cannot help it. If that self should change, what then? Robert Burton would not produce his Anatomy of Melancholy for another 20 years but it is clear that he er 20 years, but it is clear that by the 17th century what we might think of as a very modern problem — depression — was well established in Western consciousness. and recognised as going to the root of what makes us who we are. Carlyle would note how Goethe's The Sorrows of Young Werther, pub-

the nameless unrest and longing discontent which was then agitating every bosom".

called the nameless unrest that made Antonio a stranger to himself. It is as good a description as any of that dark void. To those who have not peered over the edge, the opening words of Lewis Wolpert's book about depression — part mem-oir, part investigation — may seem an impossible overstatement. "It-was the worst experience of my life," he writes. "More terrible even than watching my wife die of can-cer." He is, he concedes, "ashamed" to admit this. But depression, as his moving and enlightening book charts, is not "feeling low", is not "worrying about nothing", is not — despite Burton's (and Wolpert's) earnest exhortation to "be not idle" in the face of it — something to be in the face of it - something to be snapped out of. It is an illness whose consequences can be devastating, whose symptoms are myri-

Wolpert is a biologist. His aim is, in part, to put depression under the microscope. He ranges across cul-tures and through psychology and physiology to discover why some

people get depressed, how a cure might be effected and how the ill-ness might be avoided. Yet, near the end of his book, he admits that "it would be misleading to say that depression is understood": quite an admission for a scientist. That is, to some extent, its fascination. If there is no precise, chemical or biological explanation for this phenomenon, it is because there is

as yet no precise, chemical or bio-logical explanation for what we call the soul. A discussion of brain cells, synapses and neurotransmitters won't quite do; as far as emotion is concerned humanity still appears to dwell in a medieval world of "humours" that mysteriously colour ex-perience. For this reason it is all the more startling when a "purely



chemical" change alters personali-

ty dramatically. It is this kind of alteration that overtakes Lauren Slater. Psychoactive drugs are nothing new; drugs that work with the apparent precision of Prozac are. Prozac is a selective serotonin-reuptake inhibitor: it stops the brain reabsorbing the mood-affecting neuronransmitter se-

rotonin. Slater already had a history of mental illness in 1988, when she was 26 and first given the then

brand-new drug. Prozac Diary charts her chemical transformation. Before Prozac there were eating disorders, a com-pulsion to tap and check, voices inside her head - after Prozac there was health, a condition she can barely recognise. One morning she wakes up to a world subtly and yet enormously changed: "It was as though I'd been visited by a blind piano tuner who had crept into my apartment at night, who had tweaked the ivory bones of my body, the taut strings in my skull, and now, when 1 pressed on my-self, the same notes but with a mel-

lower, fuller sound sprang out."
But Lauren Slater has been ill all her life. The atmosphere inside her bell jar was oppressive, but it was familiar; the world no longer seen through glass is a foreign and con-fusing place. And yet the world has not changed: she has. The voices she heard did not make her "happy", but they were, in a sense, her triends and comforters: now they are gone. Her "ill" self wrote stories and poems; her "healthy" self does not. Is something missing? Is it

worth the trade? Slater has no answers. This is an extremely personal document, and has some of the failings of the genre of "creative non-fiction": the language can be overblown and the reader is not always as interested in Slater as she is in herself. She is, however, a perceptive writer, and her focus on her own experience means she does not pronounce or over-generalise as Elizabeth Wurtzel did in Prozac Nation. Yet in raising questions - in making much ado to know herself - Slater illuminates not just her own illness and how its nature is entwined with her core but adds a valuable contribu-tion to the debate over what makes us — in this pharmacological age — exactly what we are.

MALIGNANT SADNESS The Anatomy of Depression By Lewis Wolpert Faber, £9.99 ISBN 0 571 19172 X

PROZAC DIARY Hamish Hamilton, £9.99 ISBN 0 241 13749 7

# Beyond the big bang

First we got the bomb, and that was good . . . Tariq Ali admires Michael Foot's anti-nuclear stance

f modern science exemplifies the dialectic of good and evil then nothing research design and production of nuclear weapons of mass destruction. In the bomb lies the spirit that could negate

The decision by India and Pakistan to test nuclear weapons has stirred dormant passions in Michael Foot: a veteran nuclear disarmer and now the King Lear of old Labour. Free, at last, of the burdensome symbols of power. unencumbered by the need to please any Establishment Foot has rediscovered his old CND badge. The nuclear posturing in South Asia has reminded him that what he once thought and argued remains much closer to the truth than the warmongering Clinton and his Downing Street echo. Foot was shocked and upset by the decision of India and Pakistan to go nuclear and he felt like Goethe's Faust that: "This drives me near to desperate distress!/ Such elemental power unharnessed, purposeless!/

There dares my spirit soar past all it knew! Here I would fight, this I would subdue!" There are aspects of this book which irritate. Foot is besotted with the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty of India, He takes the late Indira Gandhi too much at face value. He treats her son, the late Rajiv Gandhi, as if he were a sage. In reality the mother was a cynical and ruthless manipulator and the son asimpleton who should never have entered politics. Sentimentality in a volume of this DR STRANGELOVE, I PRESUME By Michael Foot Victor Gollancz, £16.99 ISBN 0 575 06693 8



sort weakens the impact and should be reserved for a memoir. There was also, surprisingly, no reference to the European Nuclear Disarmament network or the late E.P. Thompson, whose passion and pamphleteering ignited the rebirth of an antinuclear movement during the Nonetheless, there is much

wisdom in this book and much anger against the complacency of Western leaders who watched calmly as the nuclear monopoly was broken by Israel, South Africa, India and Pakistan, China and, no doubt, others of which we are yet unaware. Foot, aided by recent works on the subject. takes us back to the Cuba crisis of 1962 when the world was on the brink of nuclear conflict and a majority of Kennedy's generals were for war. He argues that the Soviet leader. Nikita Khrushchev. was the real victor. He had



saved Castro and won concessions nearer home

The real hero of this volume, however, is Khrushchev's heir. Mikhail Gorbachev: "In my estimation, he did more than any other single individual engaged in the ugly trade of world politics to make possible a peaceful ending of our warridden century . . . whatever else he was or was not, he was the most passionate nuclear disarmer who ever appeared on the planet."

. The heart of the problem lies in the post-1989 globalisa-

tion process that we are living through. If Britain has the bomb why not India? Delhi's apologists often pose the question and there is no relativist response. The only way to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons is by the strength of example: a Europe nuclearfree from the Atlantic to the Urals would represent a tremendous leap forward.

This is not simply Foot's view, but a position articulated by the former United States Secretary of Defence, Robert McNamara. It is, alas,

BIBLIOMANE

cially as well as intellectually

not a view shared by Messrs Blair and Cook and, given the way new Labour has structured the old party, it is unlikethat the subject could ever be openly and democratically discussed at a party confer ence. This irritates the old bibliophile and hence this book, which is a gentle, reasoned call to arms against the insanity of maintaining nuclear weapons. If it succeeds in putting the nuclear question back on the map of contemporary politics in Britain it will

have served its purpose.

English language remains strong, and the overseas business can be recovered. The university should stop trying to milk the Press quite so ruthlessly, and the delegates should not panie. In a firm so large, with such a past, and with charitable status, there must remain an island where profit does not come first. And it should be called the

larendon Press. FRANK MARTIN has been making prints and illustrating books for 50 years. His work is derivative rather than distinctive, but the attractive selection in The Wood Engravings of Frank Martin (Previous Parrot Press, 280 ordinary copies. £86) shows how versatile he has been. His cutting is not subtle or modulated, but stark, and his favourite ladies are mostly starkers. He is at his best with either the emblematic or the jovial and comic. Unfortunately, Hal Bishop's lively and deeply informative introduction is marred by grammatical blunders, and the referencing

JIM MCCUE

### A long walk back from the land of grief

he trajectory of Julia Blackburn's career is fascinating. In 1979 she began with a collection of aboriginal responses to European culture called The White Men. In 1989, she wrote a sympathetic biography of Charles Water-ton, traveller, conservationist and English eccentric. This was followed by two more books about famously isolated people: Napoleon in exile on St Helena, and Daisy Bates in the desert. In 1995, Blackburn's first novel. The Book of Colour, explored the function of memory in a troubled 20thtween the Seychelles, Mauritius and England.

The Lepers Companions owes something to each of its predecessors. Its central theme is bereavement. The unnamed narrator has suffered a nameless loss and longs only to escape from pain. The site of the narrator's escape and recovery is a seaside village in 15th-century England. with hunger, disease and superstition. In this place where life is nasty, brurish and short there are a great many who grieve: Sally, whose husband was cursed by a mermaid and lured under the sea; the shoemaker's wife whose husband was blind, then mad and finally dead; the priest who has lost his youth ministering to his parishioners.

Most enigmatic of all is the leper, a biblical character who links the novel's universal and historical perspectives by mediating between the displaced narrator and the 15th-century villagers, and joining them in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He is the novel's cynical nucleus, an emblem of the partial recovery and permanent scarring that most of us can expect from bereavement.

Fortunately, this austere

SCURR

THE LEPER'S **COMPANIONS** By Julia Blackburn Jonathan Cape, £19.99 ISBN 0 224 05127 X



and unedited guide to grief is made loveable by Blackburn's historical imagination. She has a peculiar talent for finding the tiny details that revive the past: the white banner in Saint Mark's Square announcing that a pilgrim ship is ready for passengers; the lion of Venice and red cross of Jerusalem flying from the rigging; the warehouses supplying seasick-ness pills, plague pills, dried food and holy relics.

Blackburn is even more startling on the subject of women's history. She points out the advantages of being post-menopausal before undertaking a pilgrimage; illustrates the misinterpretation of postnatal depression as possession by the Devil; and a woman in the stocks surrounded by her snuffling children like a sow in the farrow pen. Blackburn is never offensively earnest; she wears her talents like a modern Renaissance woman; with elegance and an affable ease. While it is unlikely to be the climax of her literary career. The Leper's Companions is a significant step on the way.

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### Fashion's prisoner

spent over an hour in a cell in Barlinnie Prison in Glasgow, talking to a lifer who had one of the worst reputations in the city. The crimital was slight, quietly spoker and intelligent. With no attempt to gloss the violence of his life, he made a formicable case for the view that write prison may punish. it is counter-productive and inhuman for it to be one of the circles of hell. Even then, Jimmy loyle had already started to stady, sculpt and write. His story demonstrated how upbringing could corrupt, a savage prison regime bru-talise and the smallest degree of understanding offer the possibility of redemption. Boyle vas released in 1982. after sering 15 years. While still inside he published two

autobiographies, A Sense of

finement, which are required.

reading he anyone who seeks

Freedom and The Pain of Con-

MGONEY. HERO OF THE

UNDERWORLD By Jimmy Boyle Sement's Tall. £9.99 ISBN 1 85242 608 X

dense, honest prose lifted throughout by a questing inteligence. I can still recall the admiration I felt, first reading it in 1977, knowing that there were many in the prison establishment and the criminal underworld who wanted Boyle to stay inside until his spirit was broken. The book proved it never would be.

Such knowledge cannot help but set up expectations. Boyle's first novel comes pre-praised by no less a trio than Steven Berkoff, Ronan Bennett and Halena Kennedy. OC, and his reviewer must be truthful and admit wanting to share their admiration. Yet to undersand crime and punishmoon. The first volume. Hero of the Underworld falls limits on his soul as especiable is written in a so far short of the Swift-Burthey are fashionable.

roughs-Kesey-London" com-parisons heaped on it as to make that praise seem dangerously close to patronage. John Ferguson is a con who, with a fine sense of irony, calls

himself "Hero", and is released from a prison known as "The Institution", only to descend into an underworld where excrement, viscerae, vomit and a diet of rats are the staple fare. People are known only by nicknames, and what rage is felt is directed against the brutes who languish in other circles of the darkness; rather than those above. The picaresque structure falls flat and when it attempts reflection the prose verges on the jejune.
With real regret I say that

Boyle has shown what he is capable of, but his novel cannot be mentioned in the same breath as his autobiographical volumes. In restricting himself to knockabout Gothic horror and wallowing in the scatological at the expense of real characterisation, he has imposed limits on his soul as sad as

NOW Oxford University Press has announced its intention to phase out its Clarendon Press imprint, becanse it is "anachronistic" like our cathedrals, or Chaucer, or the House of Lords. OUP is used to being enor-

mously profitable, but has been having a tough time re-cently. It made a bad investment in Mexico, and its vast English Language Teaching division has made some mistakes. But it remains twice the size of Cambridge University Press, and larger than all the American university presses pirt together. To jeopardise, or even compromise, its unrivalled record in aca-demic publishing is commer-

disastrous. Yet this appears to be what is happening, beming with the music publishing department, which is now headed by an executive with no musical background. Oxford's proprietary hold on that invaluable asset the



A woodcut by Frank Martin for the Folio Society, 1961

### Balancing factors in dealing with delay

Southwark London Borough Council v Nejad

Refore Lord Justice Roch and Lord

Budgment January 21] It was not always incumbent on a court to grant leave to lodge a bill for taxation and allow the question of penalty to be decided by a taxing master, since the power of refusing an extension had to be preserved to protect a party from unfairness. but that procedure was one of the few circumstances which allowed for a penalty to be meled out for delay and for an assessment of the de-

gree of penalty required.

A judge in exercising his discretion should not adopt a mechanis-tic approach to extensions of time but had to halance all factors including the lack of an explanation for the delay or the frankness of

any explanation given.
The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment when allow-ing the appeal of London Borough of Southwark against the decision of Judge Cox on December 2, 1997. The judge dismissed an appeal from an order of District Judge Zimmels of September 19, 1997 whereby leave to lodge a bill of

The order for costs was made in possession proceedings against Mr Ahmed Nejad on August II, 1994. Application to lodge the bill was made in December 1996. No explanation was offered for the two-year delay.

Mr Donald Broatch for the council. Mr William McCormick for

LORD JUSTICE WALLER said that the appeal raised for the sec-ond time in the Court of Appeal in a matter of weeks an issue as to whether and in what circumstance an extension of time should be givon for the lodging of a bill of costs following the making of an order for costs in layour of a party: see foniello v Top Deck Ski Ltd [The Times December 7, 1998).

It was not in dispute that it was open to a court to grant an exten-sion of time for the lodging of a bill of costs : see Order 13, rule 4 of the County Court Rules 1981 (\$1 1981 No 1687, as amended by County Court (Amendment No.3) Rules (SI 991 No 1382).

It was also not in dispute that the taxing officer had a discretion in disallow some of the costs where a party failed without good reason to commence taxation timeously: see Order 62 rule 28(4) of the Rules of the Supreme Court which applied in the county court by virtue of Order 38, rule ((3) of the County Court Rules.

It was that procedure which Lord Justice Auld had thought was appropriate in Toniello rather than a blanket refusal to cound

It was important to bear in mind in exercising the discretion under Order 62, rule 28(4) that a taxing master could penalise a party for delay: that is, simply not allow costs whether or not the delay had caused prejudice to the other party and to emphasise the necessity for there to be no delay: see Enfield London Borough Council v P (1996) 1 FLR 621).

The first question was whether having regard to the taxing master's powers it was always incumbent on a court to grant leave to lodge a bill for taxation and allow any penalty to be decided by him. His Lordship did not under-stand that Lord Justice Auld in Tonicllo was saying that there would be no cases where it was appropriate simply to refuse an exten-

What had to be borne in mind in any case was that a blanket refusal

stopped the process in limine and possibly without as full an investigation into the facts as the taxing master might be able to carry out.

The present procedure was one of the few circumstances where to provide an extension still allowed a penalty to be meted out for the delay; it further allowed for an assessment of the degree of penalty re-

But clearly the draconian power of refusing an extension had to be preserved in order to protect a respondent from even having to incur the trouble and expense of taxation where the delay was such or the prejudice was such as to make it unfair that he should have to do

The principles to be applied

were from Finnegan v Parkside Health Authority (1998) | WLR 411) and Costellow v Somerset County Council 4 1993 | 1 W'LR 256). Those authorities demonstrated that the court should not adopt a mechanistic approach to questions of extending time. The court should not, for example, fetter itself from exercising a discretion to extend time simply because there was no explanation for the delay and in particular because there was no explanation which was ac-

ceptable as a reason for the delay. Each case depended on its own cir-comstances. But his Lordship would emphasise the explanation given, or the lack of it, or the frankness of it, were factors which the court was entitled to take into account in exercising its discretion, and the prejudice to the opposing party was also a factor to be placed in the scales, but was not necessarily determinative any more than

The exercise was one of balancing all the relevant factors and where the result of not granting an extension would be draconian, the court was concerned to assess the proportionality of the resulting pen-alty to the applicant to his failure

In the present case, the judge had not performed the balancing exercise and the exercise of discretion was flawed. Their Lordships would refer the matter to the taxing master who could penalise pro-portionately and had greater pow-ers to examine the relevant facts than their Lordships.

Lord Justice Roch agreed. Solicitors: C. D. A. Jones & Co.

### Proving perverting course of justice

Regina v Lalani Before Lord Justice Brooke, Mr Jus-

tice Hooper and Judge Peter Craw-ford, QC Reasons January 22

Where a juror was charged with an offence of doing acts tending and intended to pervent the course of public justice, it was not sufficient for the prosecution to rely solely on the fact of an improper communication between the juror and a defendant concerning the subject matter of the trial. It was necessary to prove that the juror had the req-

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in giving reasons for allowing an appeal on January 18 by Rozamin Lalani against her conviction in May 1998 at the Cen-tral Criminal Court on a piea of guilty following a ruling by the tri-al judge, Judge Fingret, of an offence of doing acts tending and in-tended to pervert the course of public justice in connection with a trial at Southwark Crown Court in the

Miss III Evans, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant, Mr James Pavry for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE BROOKE, giving the reserved reasons of the court, said that the appellant had pleaded guilty after a ruling by the

Mr Pavry told the trial judge that he accepted that he must prove both a tendency to pervert the course of justice and an intention on the part of the juror to achieve that end, but he asserted that his obligation was limited to establishing the basic intent to participate in improper communica-tions with the defendants, regardless of motive.

That would embrace any com-

matter of the trial.

Miss Clare Montgomery, QC, who appeared at the trial with Miss Evans submitted that com-munications between defendants and jurors could not in themselves amount to acts which had both a sendency to pervert the course of justice and an intention to do so.

She maintained that the Crown

had to establish a specific intent by proving either some unlawful com-munication or one that was lawful but done with the intention of perverting the course of justice and with foresight that the consequence es of the act could lead to a perver-

sion of the course of justice.
The judge had ruled that any communication between defendants and jurous concerning the subject matter of the trial was capable of being an improper communication and therefore capable of having a tendency to, that is, a possibil-ity of and be intended to pervert the course of justice.

After consultation with her ad-

After consultation with her ad-visers Lalani pleaded guilty on the hasis that she admitted that she had discussed with one of the de-fendants her family circumstances, she had given two of the defend-ants her telephone number and had spoken with them on the tele-

phone on the evenings following the jury's deliberations.

She accepted that she did those acts deliberately and therefore in that sense intended them. She did not, however, accept that she in-tended or contemplated that the jufor to whom she passed informa-non would be influenced by it or that she herself would be influ-enced in her deliberations or that the course of justice would be affect-

The appellant now challenged her conviction on the basis that the judge was wrong in law when he ruled that on the admitted facts the

indictment had disclosed an of-

In their Lordships' judgment, if a defendant in a criminal trial ina defendant in a criminal trial improperly passed information to a juror, who continued with her duties and did not immediately inform the jury hailiff, and, by that means, the judge, then in the ordinary way it should not be difficult for the Crown to prove that by her acts the juror intended to pervert the course of justice in permitting herself to be influenced by the information she had received in the way she performed her duties as a jushe performed her duties as a ju-ror, whether she kept the information to herself or communicated it

to other jurors.
Similarly, if she passed on such information to another juror, it should not be difficult to prove that she intended to influence that other

spe intended to intimerce man other ; jurior and thereby change, or affect, the course of justice.

In the present case, the appellant resolutely declined in make any admissions at all about her state of mind. It was therefore incombent on the Crown in call out. cumbent on the Crown to call evi-dence to prove the requisite intention, which could not be implied on admitted facts once the appellaring had put the matter so clearly in is

If the trial had proceeded, their Lordships had little doubt that the Crown would not have had much difficulty in proving that she had the requisite intention, but that was a different matter.

This was in many way: 2 most exceptional case but their Lord-ships were satisfied that the judge's ruling on mens rea was wrong and accordingly her convichad already served 52 day; in pris-on of her four-month sentence, the Crown quite rightly did not ask for a retrial.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Central Casework

### Minister's power to decide validity

Regina v Secretary of State to the secretary of state hearing the appeal on the ground that the validport and Regions, Ex parte Bath and North East Somerset District Council

Refore Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummery, QC

(Judgment January 6) Where a local authority had refused planning and listed building consent on the ground that a developer's application had run been made validly and the developer consequently appealed, it was with-in the secretary of state's jurisdic-

validity of the application. Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummery. QC, so held sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Divition. in refusing the application of Bath and North East Somerset District Council for a declaration as to the limits of the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State for the Environment. Transport and Regions to consider appeals in planning appli-cations and listed building consent

The council had received apolications for planning permission and listed building consent for a building in its area from a developer but it refused to entertain the applica-tion on the ground of invalidity as is considered the plans submitted in support insufficiently detailed.

The developer appealed to the unity was arranged for the hearing of the appeal. The council objected Treasury Solicitor.

appeal on the ground that the valid-ity of the developer's applications was a question for the council

Mr Meyric Lewis for the council: Miss Alice Robinson for the re-

HIS LORDSHIP said that It was clear that whether a valid application for the purposes of article 20(I) of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order (SI 1995 No 419) had been made was one which was not exclusively for determination by the local planning authority, but one which the inspectorate, when selsed of the matter, might deter-

it was helpful to reflect on the practical good sense of that con-struction and effect of the provisions. The inspectorate had all the application material and could perfectly well form the view that there had been compliance.

The legislative framework pro-

vided a mechanism for the timely determination of planning applica-tions and the related remedy of lodging appeals. It was entirely consistent with that framework for the secretary of state to determine, in a proper case, and contrary to the views of the applicant, that a valid applica-

tion had been made which might now be oursued on appeal. Solicitors: Shurpe

### Non-military use of land does not invalidate bylaws

DPP v John DPP v Lec

Before Lord Justice Buston and Vir Justice Collins [Judgment January 22]

In section 14(1) of the Military Lands Act 1892, land was "approprinted" for a military purpose if it was set uside or allocated to such a purpose, and the concept had nothing to do with the use of the land. A secretary of state was entitled

to make bylaws prohibiting intru-sion on and/or obstruction of the use of land appropriated by him for a military purpose when that land was not currently being used for a military purpose. Use of land belonging to the secretary of state by another party with the secretary of state's consent did not automatically make that use a purpose of the secretary of state.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgcourt so their it a reserved prog-ment when allowing an appeal by the prosecution by way of case stat-ed from York Crown Court Judge Crabtree and justices) which had granted appeals by Helen John and Anne Lee from their convic-tions by Claro Justices of various breaches of bylaws 4(2)(a) and 4(2)(b) of the RAF Menwith Hill Bylaws (SI 1996 No 105) contrary to section 17(2) of the 1892 Act. as amended by section 39(3) of and Schedule 3 to the Criminal Justice

ection 14 of the 1992 Act pro

unteer corps is for the time being appropriated by or with the consent of a secretary of state for any military purpose, a secretary of state may make bylaws for regulat-ing the use of the land for the purposes to which it is appropriated, and for securing the public against danger arising from that use, with power to prohibit all intrusion on the land and all obstruction of the

Mr Timothy Stead for the prose-cution: Mrs Vera Baird for Ms John: Ms Lee in person: Mr lan Burnett, QC, as amicus curiae.

LORD JUSTICE BUXTON said that the defendants had been con-victed of breaching bylaws relating to the RAF Menwith Hill radio station, which was owned by the Ministry of Defence, but largely used by United States personnel. The RAF Menwith Hill Bylaws

had been made by the secretary of state and excluded members of the public from a specified area. The defendants accepted that on the facts found by the crown court they would be guilty of the offences if the bylaws were valid, but they contended that the balance area. tended that the bylaws were ultra

It was accepted by all parties that the burden was on the defendants to prove that the bylaws were invalid: Boddington v British Transport Police [1988] 2 WLR 639, 647AL

vides: "(1) Where any land belong- from Part II of the IS92 Act and par-

powered a secretary of state to make bylaws for certain purposes relating to land which was appro-priated by the secretary of state for

my military purpose.

The first point related to the meaning of "appropriated" in sec-tion 14(1).

The crown court had held that because not all of the land to which the bylaws applied had been in use for a military purpose when the bylaws were passed, the land was not appropriated for a military purpose what three that time pose at that time.

In his Lordship's judgment, that was a misimerpretation of section 14(1). "Appropriated", in that sec-tion, meant set aside for or allocated to a particular purpose, and had nothing to do with the use of the land in question.

Although the crown court had

found that about 70 per cent of the land was being used for farming purposes when the bylaws were passed, the facts as found did not establish that the land had not been appropriated for a military surpose.

The second point related to the purposes for which bylaws could be made under section 14(1). His Lordship's construction of the section was that it provided a secretary of state with four discrete powers: (i) to regulate the use of the land for the purposes to which it was appropriated; (ii) to secure the

public against danger arising from that use: (iii) to prohibit all intrasion on the land; and (iv) to prohibit all obstruction of the use of the In his Lordship's judgment, pur-poses (iii) and (iv) were not dependent on showing that the land was currently being used for a military

purpose. Third, the prosecution had argued that since the secretary of state permitted farmers to use the land for Earning, farming was a purpose of the secretary of state, and therefore, by virtue of section 23s of the Delence (Transfer of Functions! Act 1964, a military pur-

In his Lordship's judgment that was wrong. It was the use of the land that had to be a purpose of the secretary of state, and that was not achieved when he merely allowed someone else to use the land.

In his Lordship's judgment, each subparagraph of bylaw 4(2) was valid, clearly coming within the secretary of states powers to each before the control of the secretary of states powers to an observe the secretary of states and observe the secretary of states are not believe to the secretary of states and observe the secretary of states are not secretary of states and observe the secretary of states are not secretary of states and secretary of states are not secretary of states are secretary of states are not secretary of states are secretary of states are not secretary of states a

prohibit intrusion on, and obstruction of use of the land.
The appeal would be allowed and the cases remitted to the crown court with a direction to dismiss

Mr Justice Collins agreed. Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, York; Harrison Bundey & Co. Leeds: Treasury Solicitor.

#### Power to make inquiries

Regina v Bradford Justices, Ex parte Sykes and Another A clerk or fustice was entitled, but not under a duty, to make inquiries beyond the information when de-

ending to issue a summons.
The Queen's Bench Divisional
Court (Lord Justice Buston and Mr Justice Collins) so held on January 6. when relising applications by Martin Robert Syles and David James Shoesmith for judicial review of the decision by the clerk to Bradford Justices to issue summonses on July 10, 1998 charging them with inter alia, conspiracy to supply a days A drug. MR JUSTICE COLLINS said

that the defendants had argued that it was the duty of the clerk to the justices to make inquiries into the background of the informations laid, and that if he had done so in this case, he would have concluded that it would be vessious to issue the summerses.

The defendants argued that it

was implicit in the words of Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, in R v West London Supendiary Magistrate. Ex parte Klahn (1979) i WLR 933, 936) that inquiries should be made. Lord Widgery had referred to R = Bros ((1901) 85 LT 581), but that case had only decided that a clerk or justice was entitled to act on any material before him.

His Lordship's said a clerk or justice was entitled to make inquiries before issuing a summons, but Lord Justice Buxton agreed.

### Councils should give great weight to technical advice

Regina v Tandridge District Council, Ex parte Al Payed Before Mr Justice Carnwath -Liudement January 141:

On technical issues, such as radiation safety, a local nuthority, while not bound to follow the advice of statutory bodies such as the Health and Safety Executive and the Na-tional Radiological Protection Board, should revertheless give great weight to their advice.

Although the council's decision-

there was no realistic possibility ent conclusion where scientific evivice of the Health and Safety Executive, based on National Radiological Protection Board guidelines was that there were no reasons on health and safety grounds why a planning application to erect a radio telephone mast should not be

Mir Justice Carnwath so held sitting as an additional judge in the Queen's Bench Division and dismissing the application of Moham-ed Al Fayed to quash the decision of Tandridge District Council dat-ed July 22, 1997 to grant planning ion for the exection of a ra-

dio telephone mast by Mercury Personal Communications pic. Mr Ian Crosford, QC and Mr Rabinder Singh for the applicant: Mr Neil King for the council: Mr David Pannick: QC and Mr Alan Griffiths for Mercury.

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that objections to Mercury's proposal had been submitted by the applicant, whose main concern was possible health risks.

The letter included, inter alia, an article by Dr McKinlay of the National Radiological Protection Board concerning the salety of radio station antennae. It was common ground that that letter was not sent to the Health and Safety The council referred Mercury's proposal to the Health and Safety

ecutive, but did not draw attention to those particular aspects of possible non-thermal effects. The executive replied that there were no reasons on health and safety grounds why the proposal should not be permitted.

Planning permission was grant-

Clearly on a technical issue, a local authority should give great weight to the advice of statutory bodies, and as a matter of law a local authority might take into ac-count genuine concerns for public safety even when not wholly sup-ported by technical evidence.

His Lordship was satisfied that the council had not regarded itself as bound by the views of the Health and Safety Ecocutive.

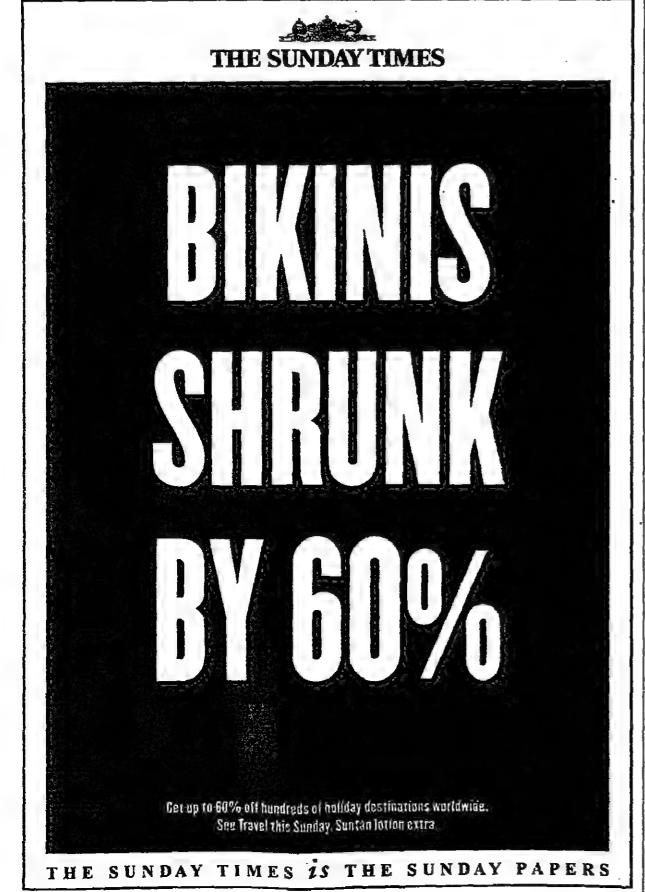
However, there was substance in the applicant's complaint that his objections had not leen proper-ly considered by the cauncil. The objections had aised a serious planning matter which should have been investigated.

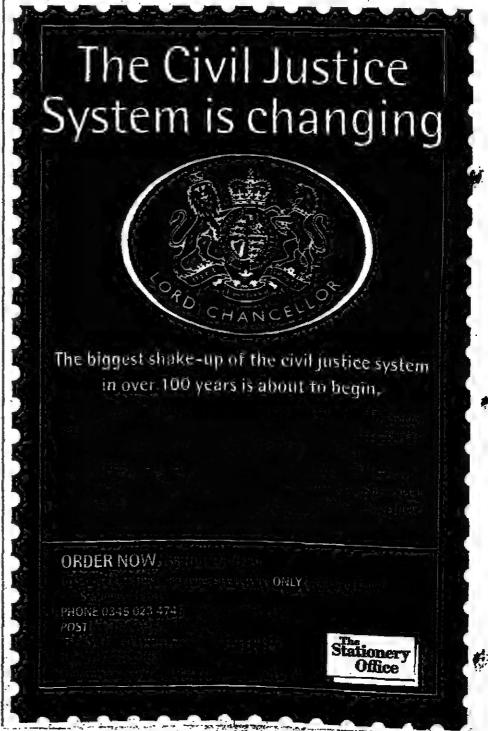
The coincil relied upon the advice of the executive, which had never in fact injestigated the mat-s. ter as it had not been put on notice to consider the applicant's specific

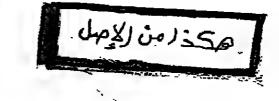
That was a flaw in the decisionmaking process. Was there a realistic possibility that the decision would have been different if it had been handled correctly?

Here the applicant's case failed. The overall effect of the technical aterial was clear. The effect of radio telecommunications on health, particularly the distinction between thermal effects and non-hermal effects, appeared in radiological protection board material which had been before the execu-

The application for judicial review would therefore be dismissed. Solicitors: Halsey Meyer Hig-







intice

Cope dieska

or ical advice

# SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.



When you have a problem, it's the most natural thing in the world to want to talk it through with someone.

Sometimes, though, this creates another problem: who's the best person to confide in?

An obvious choice would be a close friend. But let's face it, we don't always choose our friends for their amazing powers of tact, diplomacy and discretion. Tell one person, and you may end up telling the world.

You may be lucky enough to be able to talk to someone in your family. Then again, you may be one of the large number of people who find talking to your nearest and dearest agonisingly embarrassing.

A girlfriend or boyfriend? If you can, great. But sometimes we don't want to expose our weaknesses to those who fancy us.

And sometimes your relationship is the very problem you want to discuss.

That's where The Samaritans can be useful. We're more discreet than your best mate, we'll listen as carefully as your girlfriend or boyfriend, and we're as sympathetic as your family. We're also non-judgemental, unshockable, and extremely experienced.

Our national number is 0345 90 90 90, and you can e-mail us on jo@samaritans.org or visit our homepage at www.samaritans.org. We're available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

And you don't have to be climbing up the walls before you call us – any kind of problem, big or small, is a good enough reason to pick up the phone.

Call now. You'll find we're remarkably easy to talk to.

The Samaritans



### Starting price reporter cleared of malpractice

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

NEAL WILKINS, the Press Association employee arrested last July on suspicion of returning talse starting prices at race meetings, has been eliminated from police enquiries and will face no charges.

He was informed of the decision by the Metropolitan Police yesterday and immediately intended to take legal action against those responsible for besmirching his reputation. Civil proceedings are likely to be instituted against individuals in the Jockey Club and the Press Association.

"Only someone who has been through this kind of nightmare can imagine what it is like — absolutely desper-ate," he said yesterday. "I have suffered sleepless nights, nervous rashes and have been on medication. My doctor said three weeks ago that he was amazed I was still alive, given what I have been through.

"My only 'crime' was to dress well and smoke cigars. I

HAVING taken a long and

winding road after the 1996

Cheltenham Festival, Wither

Or Which finally returns to

the racecourse in a maiden

hurdle at Gowran Park today

Or Which himself in the Festi-

val Bumper, before saddling

Florida Pearl and Alexander

Banquet to plunder the next

two runnings. Mullins said:

Willie Mullins rode Wither

(Chris McGrath writes).

should never have been put in this situation in the first place and those people who put me

there have got to pay for it."
Wilkins, 50, has been a starting price reporter for 25 years. which involves monitoring the movements in the betting ring at Britain's 59 racecourses and determining the starting price for every runner - which are then beamed into the nation's 8,000 betting shops.
His arrest by the Metropoli-

tan Police's clubs and vice squad followed information assed on by the PA, the national news agency, and was separate from the investigation into horse doping and race fixing, which has led to 15

In a statement, Wilkins's lawyers said that the police admitted its investigation "has not given rise to any fact or matter which could sustain further investigation, let alone a

prosecution."
"The allegations against Mr

"Wither Or Which had a prob-

lem with a tendon and then

last year with his back, but he

appears in good form now.
I've never ridden a horse with

If all goes well. Wither Or Which heads for the Citroen

Supreme Novices' Hurdle at

this year's Festival, while Alex-

ander Banquet steps up in trip for the Royal & SunAlliance

an engine like it."

Wilkins were exceedingly serious, both personally and professionally. He was arrested on suspicion of corruption, returning false starting prices at race meetings. He has been a SP reporter for nearly 26 years and the allegations went to the very heart of his professional standing within the racing industry and by themselves were a slur on his previously untarnished character.

"The allegations have resulted in him being suspended for ment and have caused him an immense amount of personal anxiety, stress and worry.

While Mr Wilkins is re-lieved and satisfied at the events of today, he is also dis-appointed with the conduct of certain individuals and bodies who have both caused this spu rious investigation to be undertaken in the first place and who have, during the investigation, acted in a manner detrimental to Mr Wilkins's and

racing's good name."

After his arrest, exactly six months before yesterday's announcement. Wilkins insisted the police action was driven by others within the racing indus try in an attempt to discredit him for ulterior motives - and he pledged to sue those respon-sible.

"Nothing has happened over the course of the last six months so as to deter Mr Wilkins from carrying out that statement made at the time of his arrest," the lawyers' state-



Majadou is soon at the head of affairs as he provides Pipe and McCoy with their hundredth winner of the season at Lingfield yesterday

### Champion team reaches milestone

BY CHRIS MCGRATH

THIS time, perhaps the milestone was rather less significant than the horse that took them past. In sharing the hundredth winner of their respective seasons at Lingfield yesterday, Tony Mo-Coy and Martin Pipe confirmed their. pre-eminence among jump jockeys and

. If it is not quite so overwhelming as has sometimes been the case, both will recognise that Majadou - who routed his sole rival. Kingsfold Pet, for the Dave Freeman Memorial Novices' Chase - can contribute to their success in terms of quality as well as quantity. Another of Pipe's French imports, Majadou confirmed the striking im-pression of his British debut at Cheitenham on New Year's Day, when he had beaten a good subsequent winner in Kadou Nonantais. He will return there for the Festival in March after jumping safely in very taxing conditions yester-

McCoy said of his winner: "He did it well, as a two-horse race is never easy. We got round safely but, like a lot of French horses, be does tend to jump to the left." The season's leading jockey added: "He's in a lot of races at the Pestival, but I'm sure the trainer will make the right choice."

Pipe's decision to drop Majadou to two miles at Lingfield makes the Guinness Arkle Trophy an especially feasible target. McCoy has been unable to match the record-breaking pace he set last season, when he reached his centu-

ry on November 5. Referring to a series of whip suspensions, he said: "I've taken much longer but it seems I've had more days off than winners."

He made up further lost time in the next two races, completing a treble of odds on winners through Dark-Stranger, for Pipe in the Play Golf at Lingfield Novices Chase, and Kates Charm, who landed the mares novice: hurdle for Robert Alner. Pipe has now reached a hundred in 13 consecutive 90230DS.

Tim Forster, trainer of Well To Do. Ben Nevis and Last Suspect, and Dick Saunders, rider of Grintar, were yesterday named among five members of the Jockey Club's new Grand National ex-

After the second forfeit stage in

ing the entry of any horse considered unsuitably equipped for the perils of the Martell race. Chris Collins, its chairman, said that the panel would "ensure that no decisions are taken bightly or without a full understanding of what is required of a horse at Aimree. Other safety precautions being introduced at Aintree include a pre-

race veto after veterinary inspection.

The race itself closed yesterflay, with 103 entries including the last fire wing ners in Earth Summit, Lord Gyllene. and Rough Quest. Double Thailer, who beat Teeton Mill in a languer chase at Cheitenham last spring demonstrates his credentials on his first start for the in-form Paul Nicholls at Wincamion today.

2.50 KITTY WARD THOMAS HOVICES CHASE

(E3.951: 2m 110m) (B)

(52,762: 2m 110yd) (10)



Wither Or Which back

**COING: SOFT (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES)** 

1.40 ELITE RACING CLUB JUVENILE NOVICES CLARKING HURDLE (4-Y-0: £1,842: 2m) (7 runners)

O PAYEZ 40 (A Even) K McMaille 11-12
190015 ALLEMANCE JT (8,G) (P Wegmann) P Wegmann 11-4
345005 ZURYAF 19 (6) (Starion Screen) Mrs C Hicks 11-2
PDZ PALLYNSSAMM SQ P Da Wedy O P Heach Daule 11-0
2 IPPERO 14F DASS J Raners) B Johnson 11-0
WERNEY SAMT SCEP (All Keeply M Tomphins 10-10
NATALLE'S PET 13SF (Mrs R Guideling) M Sheppard 10-1 SETTING: 13-8 Kpolo, 3-1 Ballykissano, 4-1 Fayez, 11-2 Weeking Saint, 10-1 Zuryal, 20-1 Alleghano, 23-1 Ma-

1998: CHILLI BOOM 10-0 A Bates (12-1) A Simpton 14 ran

T396: CHILL BOOM 10-0 A Bates (12-1) in Stropton 14 cm

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Research (cm. self).

FAYEZ has good claims here alter running well as a much strenger awart on his hundles how

2.10 MAURICE LISTER NOVICES CHASE

(£3,831: 2m 5f) (7 rumers) 311-34 ALBERMARIE 27 (F.G.S) (R. Opder) H (Joh) 8-11-4 A P McCoy 10S 0-11 DORREE TEMPO 23 (6.55) (Rat the Pattership) C Epistos 8-11-4 J Osboros [328] 0-12 DORRED S 20 (F.S) (Max C Lose) R Fros [-11-4] J Frost TU 1740P- ANDSLEPH 300 (G.S) (Max J Cohen) S Sherwood 7-10-12 G Bradley 4-4-7-44 DORREDS VIEW 14 (F Tucker) F Tucker (D-10-12 S Burrough 94 J ACPR (DYNAL RAMEN TV14 (G.) A Weller J Edition 8-10-12 L Aspel 5-5-F WAYNELETE 64 (Earl of Acids) N Henderson 8-10-12 M A Fitzperald —

SETTING: 9-4 Holdingloss, 5-2 Double Texpo, 5-1 Andsosphi, 6-1 Wayrilde, 7-1 Albertrafit, 10-1 Royal Ravin 1998: BENGERS ANDOR 7-10-12 T J Marphy (1-3 fm) P Inchulis 8 sm

1998: BENGERS MOOR 7-10-12 T J Merghy (1-3 left) P Inchails 6 on Double Terrors and Specialise III in 10 carrier causes deep at Harting-dom (2m 4 110pt, mil), producing III in 10 carrier causes deep at Harting-dom (2m 4 110pt, mil), producing III in 10 carrier causes deep and producing and the special producing III in 15 carrier (2m 110pt, mil) in 16 carrier (2m 1 HOLDBACK OSE confirmed the promise of his classe bow when trolling up latest and should be followed

2.40 TOTE HURDLE ISHOWCASE HANDICAPI (£5,550: 2m) (7 runners)

9

Long handkap. Kno's Crass 9-11, Pennil Pestinger 8-11.

1998: DBNES 6-10-10 7 J Marsby (2-1 lav) P Micholis 14 cm

Petter Littles 6 10-10 T J Mangley (2-1 ke/) P Nichods 14 cm

Petter Rick 91 3rd of 10 to Fetalists in montes the tile match 2 of Alextee (2m 110 yd. sorts, previously base 1 the Immedia. 12 is 8-monte 4 to doctor introduced the sort of the sort

KRABLOOMSK ray out an easy wither over leach and trip talest and can daily a 10th rise in the weights

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** TRAINERS J Osborne A McCoy G Bradley A Maguire C Llawellyn M Fitzgerald P Holley

fit to ride leading Gold Cup con-

tender Florida Pearl in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leop-

ardstown on Sunday week.

The former champion has

been on the easy list since aggra-vating an old neck and shoulder would be prepared to return the day of the Hennessy."

would be prepared to return on

RACELINE

WINCANTON 101 201

HUNT'DON 102 202 LINGFIELD 103 203 IRISH 120 220

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

3.10 RACING CHANNEL HANDICAP CHASE

(£7,003: 3m 1f 110yd) (5 runners)

Timiles si 2nd of 11 to Loss Option to novice border chans at Stations (Sm. 4), good to Brint's previously that I cettor MM 120 is 9-nearer handler of chase at Chetherham (Sm. 3) 110/d, good to Schill, Previously best Mass Dector 130 in Chemical Change of Change at Chetherham (Sm. 3) 110/d, sold, previously best Mass Dector 130 in 7-nearer handless (Change at Control Change (Sm. 1) 110/d, sold, previously best Mass Dector 130 in 7-nearer handless of the Sm. 3 Dector 130 in 7-nearer handless of the Sm. 3 Dector 130 in 7-nearer handless of the Sm. 3 Dector 130 in 110/d.

11, sold) Mathemat Caselle best Saras Deligia (34) in 7-nearer handless of the Sm. (Sm. 1) 110/d. good as only Saran Commenced but the Artist For each in 22-nearer handless at Cateriot Change (Sm. 1) 110/d. good as DOUBLE THRULER channel has scale of Torion bill last April and could street and trades

1998: ALLER MOOR 7-10-0 P Holley (7-2) R Alms 7 cm

3.40 PAT RUTHVEN AND GUY NOXON MEMORIAL VASE (HANDICAP CHASE) (Amateur: £3.454; 3m 1f 110vd) (7 runners)

Long bandicap: Baro Hill B-9, Divint Clarica 8-7. SETTREZ 9-4 Decemblyouthop, 4-1 Around The Gale, 6-2 Well Timed, 5-1 Born HR, 8-1 Rocky Park, Divine Chance, 12-1 Brave Buccamen.

Around The Gale pulsed on a foundation grazy in Year it has at Warwick (Zee 4f 110 pd. good to soll), previously 44-14 ft of 9 to Martell Boy in handlary draws at Station of branching chase at Station of branching chase at Mewton Abbot (Zee 2f 110 pd. good to soll), previously beater a distance 6th of 7 to Called Wild in neiting handle at Chapston (Zim, good to soll). Environ Bactionnian fell on burstiage chase at Toursealty (Zim 11, soll); previously beat Cantelle Margint 11 pl to 10-more handlary chase at Franker (Zim 2f 110 pd. do soll). Environ Environment (Zim 2f 110 pd. do soll). Environ Environment (Zim 2f 110 pd. do soll). E Mach more was expected of AROUND THE GALE first time out but he ments account dispace in this grade

4.10 POTTERS HANDICAP HURDLE TOTE TRIFECTA RACE!

1998: WALTER'S DESTRIY 6-19-3 & Uptor (29-1) C Machel 21 III.

1998: WALTER'S CESTIMY 6-10-3 & Uptor (20-1) C Mildell 21 am 

Learning First 33 30 of 8 th and find on the first 32 of 6 th the six of the first 32 of 6 th the six of the first 32 of 6 th 

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Learning First 6 the first 6 the first 6 the first 5 of 6 the first 6 the firs

PALAEMON goes well best and is one to consider on his return from a four-month absence

**BLINKERED FIRST TIME** 

Huntingdon: 1.20 Just A Roadie. 1.50 Jet Boys. 2.20 Noble Athlete. 3.20 Fountain Bank. Lingfield Park: 1.30 Meit The Clouds. 2.30 Woolly Winsome. 3.00 Teofillo. 4.00 Sarum. Wincanton: 4.10 Bel-

Negr 20NG 0
2.58 Februagen)
The firm of fragen cases
costal desired series of
working use well and Sac
Saulit 5 will to produce and
the firm of the firm of
working use well and Sac
Saulit 5 will be produced and
the first series
and first series **Dunwoody recuperating** RICHARD DUNWOODY is injury at Doncaster 10 days ago. taking a break as he fights to be Robert Parsons, his agent, said yesterday: "As the situation stands, Richard is looking at returning next Wednesday, possibly at Newton Abbot. If the worst came to the worst Richard

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS'

Lingfield Park

2.00 (2m ch) 1, MALADOU (A P NeCoy, 2-15 test, 2, Khopelotd Pet (C Llewelyn, 5-1), 2 sst. Diet. M Pipe at Wallington. Tota: \$1.10

222.71 Tecses: \$1.5 72.
4.00 (2m 110 of Ba) 1, JONESTON'S ART (B Powel, 7-1); 2, Bowl of Gold (N Williamson, evens last; 3, Hydnavis (A Price, 33-1), ALSO PAN 94 Kindford Busy 8 (401), 7 Generous Desi gird, 14 Sandrook Less, 33 Gigi, Mane (511), 50 Bag of Toys. 9 ran. 151, 142, 20. 171. Bucker at Bridgot, Tota: \$8.10; \$2.40, \$1.10, \$1.40 (DF: \$12.80, CSF: \$1.387.

Pleasured: \$4.80.

Countered: \$2.20.

Countered: \$2.20.

£ \$4.80.

Wolverhampton

Sade (in 100yd) 1. BARKIN DE PICHON (I Curra, 11-10 ke), 2. Windstells (R Whiston, 7-1), 3. Bostling Rio (I. Chemook, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 Love Demonds (Ari), 5 Vicel (I There (Std., 20 Rendills (Sh), 6 sen. T-J, 6. 4, 5, 3-4; N. Libradden et Wolverherschon, Toler. 52-20; £1 80, £2 30. DF: £11 80. CSF: £5 86. 12-22 TIBU 12-30 DF F11 80 CSF 53-56.

1-10 (Im 61 recyc) I, EMESON RUFFO (R Thomas, 6-1) 2, Immunion (R Hands, 6-1), 2, 196-196.

In Monaco Book (Min. 7 Borne Wile (Rim. 16 Manayas, 20 Abamina Sini, 50 Daino, Ning of Bobylon, 50 Daino, Ning of Bobylon, 50 Daino, Ning of Bobylon, 50 Daino, 12-196.

1-197 (13-11, 12, 14, 13, 13, 14, 14) Ultimoden of the Monamorphor, 10-2, 20, 22-00, 22-00 DF; E18-80 CSF; £46-82. 

COURSE SPECIALISTS HUNTUNGOON: TRANSCIS: M Pirman, 6 winners from 15 minors, 40.0%; Mass M Revoley, 12 from 33, 36 ffs. N Headerson, 11 from 30.05; J Spairing, 5 from 22, 22.7%; 6 Histobard, 13 aran 59, 22.0%.

hard, 13 arbs 59, 22.5%.

JDCCPS-1 Corporal, 4 phosps brown 5 fides.
5 7% of Leve 4 from 17, 22.5% 1 Corporate,
3 from 12, 22.1% 1 fides. 3 from 16, 18.5%.
1 MoCarty, 12 from 69, 17.6%. Allichael Brospp., 5 draw 52, 15.6%. LEAGUELD PARK TRANSPRIS J Bory, 26 access from 131 namers, 18,576, P Hostain, 25 tons 116, 19,576, A Armstonin, 14 from 15, 18,756, V Scoop, 8 from 43, 18,556, C Chapters, 19 from 105, 18,1%, B Heotoxy, 9 from 30, 18%, L 1.20 Misty Class. 1.50 Jet Boys. 2.20 Round Rob-

in. 2.50 River Wye. 3.20 TONOCO (nap). 3.50

Buckland Lad. 4.20 Roman Lord:

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) 1,20 SAPLEY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,129: 2m St 110yd) (20 runners)

7-2 Zahasha, 5-1 Catandral Balle, 13-2 Mehr Class, 7-1 Tabriz, 8-1 Apache Pace, 10-1 Bossin Brauss, 18-1 Wisipporing Court, 28-1 others.

1.50 HENCHDIGEBROOKE MOVICES CHASE (£4,107: 3m) (7)

1 PO22 STRACTORMEATH 22 (B.D.F.G.S.) D Grissol 8-10-10 B Poston 113
2 -0.05 STREAT FLAME 17 (S) Miles S Edwards 7-10-10 D Browner (S) 29
3 POLD H METLEY 15 (D.F.G.) G Habburd 9-10-10 Microsol Browner (S) 10-10 \$-4 King Pric. 7-2 Jul Boys, Securio Corta, 11-2 Brackenheids, 14-1 Hi Hedley, 16-1 offers

2.20 YELLING MOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,612: 2m 11Byd) (13)

7-2 Setterry, 4-1 Stone Ricige, 7-1 Grand Cra, 8-1 Optimistic Claris, Barton Screen, 10-1 Hobia Affektu, Craz Sasta, 14-1 oftens.

6-4 Torach, 71-4 Sepui's Boson, 5-4 Bacchand, 7-1 Bosons Goné, 12-1 Latan Shri, 16-1 Franch County, 25-1 Feoretain Burk, Row With The Title, Chebroth 14, 50-1 Rations. 3.50 манен наимеля снаѕе (£2,906; 2m 110yd) (5) ... i

3.20 EBF MIL MOVICES PRINCIE

5-4 Buddand Lad, 5-2 Hartdecent, 5-1 Not My Llas, 6-1 Northern Saddler, 13-2 O M

4.20 HENTENGDON MAKIEN OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (£1,683: 2m 110yd) (21)

THUNDERER 1.30 Muhandis, 2.00 Boldly Ciff. 2.30 Woolly Winsome. 3.00 Dandy Regent. 3.30 Dancing Rio. 4.00 Caemarion Bay.

GOING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: SF-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST 1.30 ALBERTA SELLING HANDICAP (£1,979: 1m 5f) (15 runners)

| Martin | M

2.00 BRITISH COLUMBIA CLAIMING STAKES (E2,107: 80 (10) "

8-11 Palgargain Touch, 6-1 hou's Dead, 7-1 Scardiana, 10-1 Fast Franc, 12-4 Boodly Chil., 14-1 One To Go, Hierardy Mass, 33-6 cases.

2.30 WENTER WARMER PACKAGES MAIDEN (£3,572: 1m) (6) 301 CALYS HALD J G Smyth-Osbusine 4-9-12 Fileston 2
302 024-MIRHADOR 105 B Headury 4-9-12 A Microson 2
303 03-0 OLDA SHUTESHA 16 687) V Sunie 4-9-12 R Conchase 3
304 - 5-2 AR OF ESTERN M F Fileston 3-5
305 085-SWARPY 140 N Calaghan 3-8-5
Dean McKenn 6
306 3-24 WOOLLY WINSOME 5 (8) B Smort 3-8-6
R Epitham 1 7-4 Marracon, 2-1 Air Of Esteem, 7-2 Outskooliness, 13-2 Woolly Wites 3.00 ORTARIO HANDICAP (\$2,646: 1m) (12)

407 03-0 SEBRUS 16 (CD) S DOW 4-9-10 R Cochrane 6
402 412 MAWAKES 16 (CD) S DOW 4-9-10 R Cochrane 6
402 412 MAWAKES 16 (CD) S DOW 4-9-10 R Cochrane 6
403 21-5 LYCLAM 26 (CD) F.S. J Tokin 4-9-7 S Wessers (3) 4
404 50-5 COLONEL (DOTTER 10 J PRINCE 4-9-7 S Whench 11
405 -0-6 COLONEL (DOTTER 10 J PRINCE 4-9-7 S Whench 11
405 -0-6 COLONEL (DOTTER 10 J PRINCE 4-9-7 S CHARLES 2
406 00-6 VAN SERP 12 (D.G.) 6 J Moree 5-8-12 S Cassos (7) 1
407 10-3 S ZZZLAM 14 (9) R Haymort 3-6-5 Dotte O'Neal 10
408 2-6 S ZZZLAM 14 (9) R Haymort 3-6-5 Dotte O'Neal 10
409 2-6 S ZZZLAM 14 (9) R Haymort 3-6-5 Dotte O'Neal 10
409 10-3 PROUSS MODR 21 (3) R Armstone 4-8-5 AP Price 12
410 10-3 DANDY RESENT 14 (3) J L Rants 3-7-10 Whoole Whoole Whoole Yell 2
411 0-66 MAGRICUS 9 (B.C.F.G) M Uniter 9-7-10 Whoole Whoole Whoole Yell 2
412 S3-0 KNAMM 21 A P Jones 5-7-10 Whoole Whoole Whoole Yell 2
5-1 Locking 9-2 Wheeled 5-1 Doubled 10 Dans, Price More 10-1 Service 12 5-2 Lychon, 9-2 Mandalo, 6-1 Delight Of Danes, Priors Mileor, 10-1 Stephing, 12-1 others 3.30 LINGFIELD PARK FOR LEISURE HANDICAP

(£3,606: 1m 4f) (6) EX, 1000. Initial (0)
501. 6-11 RELOS GF OMAGH 12 (CD.F) I Badding 4-9-10 S Whithwarth 3
502. 5-13 OMACHIGE ROT 22 (GF DUB.S.) P Helitan 4-9-8 P Goods (7) 2
503. 106. SPACE RAGES 05 SP C DUB 5-9-6 GF Plantans (7) 5
504. 1223 WOULANE 8 (CD.F) P have 6-9-1 GF DUBLANS (7) 5
505. 630. CALEDORAN EDWINS 5-11 R Best 4-6-10 GF J. Sorake 1
506. 630. CALEDORAN EDWINS 5-11 R Best 4-6-10 GF J. Sorake 1
506. 630. SLP J.S 7 (ZU.S) K Barte 6-8-1 GF J. J. Control (1)
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509. 630. CALEDORAN EDWINS 5-11 R Best 4-6-10 GF J. CONTROL (1)
509. 630. CALEDORAN EDWINS 5-11 R BEST 5-1

4-6 Fleids Of Graggs, 5-1 Dencing Rio, 13-2 Moutest, 7-1 Sile Jig. 16-1 others. 4.00 NEWFOUNDLAND HANDICAP : (Amateurs; £2,176: 1m 2f) (13)

7-2 Window's Eight 5-1 Change, 5-1 Constantion Bay, 17-2 Out Like Mode, 7-1 (Spec

### Yates sets sights firmly on Tour de France

eine group of former Tour de firance stage winners, is masterminding the three-year rucing plan leading to Tour de france participation for the Linds. McCartney cycling strang in Lundon westerden.

squad in London yesterday. We're becoming a big team now and as such our aim is the big paise." Yates said. "We definitely want to be in the liper de France." Backet by a budget of 2 million. Yates, who retired

from the European professional scene in 1996 after compering in 12 Tour de France races, is containing the development process begun by the sponsorbip of Linda McCartney last year and continuing after her death, under Sir Paul McCartney. The sponsors are committed to backing the team until 2002, and have retained an option for a further two-year involvement.

"I think Sir Paul's mission is to carry on what Linda started... and believed in." Yates ex-plained. "She really liked the idea of the cycling team and of promoting the sport and

Jeremy Whittle reports on a

team who hope they have a recipe for success

This isn't a corporate spon-sor, it's a family-scale organisation that wants to carry on what was started last year."
British cycling's leading young talent Chris Newton, who finished eighth overall in the Prudential Tour of Britain

last year, is one of the 17 vegetarian riders signed by the team. They will split their programme between British events and top-level races in Europe. With the week-long Prodential Tour of Britain, which takes place in May, in mind, Yates and his multinational team are embarking on a punishing schedule of stage races, including the Tour of Langkawi in Malaysia next month, several European stage races and the Peace Race in the Czech Republic,

Yates, who hopes to use his contacts in Europe to enhance the team's international reputation over the next year, is well aware of the task his

"The PruTour is our priority this year." Yates said, "but

there's no point putting young riders into races in which they

get thoroughly shattered, as it doesn't do anything for them. We're concentrating on build-

ing a platform from which to

expand the team and if we do

well this year and the sponsor

gets a good return, then over the next two years they will support the further growth of

"Me and the kids are really

happy to support the Linda McCartney cycling team," McCartney said. "This 'clean machine' proves that vegetari-ans aren't all carrot-munching

weedy freaks, and keeps alive

the memory of our beloved.

In addition to Newton and

Julian Winn, the 1998 PruTour stage winner, the team brings

together a clutch of young Australian riders and well-

known British stalwarts such

as Johnny Clay, as well as Chris Lillywhite and Chris

Walker - both former Milk

Race winners.

riders face.
"Coming from the background of racing that they
have had, even the smaller European races are a big leap for them," he said. "But we want to be competitive and in the thick of the action. Once we have achieved some good results, then we'll take stock." With a London Tour de

France start rumoured for early next century and the present ethical crisis having a negative impact on leading European sponsors, Yates is optimistic that a Tour call will come sooner rather than later.

"Until now the Tour's been a law unto itself," Yates said, but with the new ethical stance taken by the race organisation, they may be forced to look elsewhere for teams that fit the bill. That may work in clean, vegetarian lifestyle and we intend to stay that way."

the Brazilian currency crisis.

sound attack, while in the oth-

er Arthur Freeman, represent-

ing The Athenaeum, pulls off

a fine queen sacrifice to turn the tables in an apparently des-

Scandinavian defence

perate situation.

White Ali Mortazavi

London Clubs, 1999

Black: Arthur Freeman

### Forrester relishes treble chance

### SARAH **POTTER**

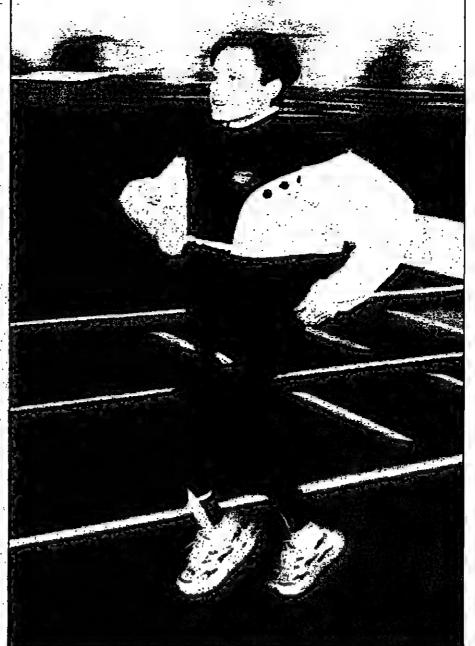


t seems appropriate that Steph Forrester earned three sporting Blues during her Cambridge University days for, five years on, she is the women's British triathlon champion. Having only taken up the sport three seasons ago, the Scot intends to swim the 1,500 metres, cycle the 40 kilometres and run the 10 kilometres fast enough to win a medal at the sport's Olympic debut in the

2000 Games in Sydney.
Yet full-time commitment for this former chemical process engineer only began in November, when National Lottery funding was confirmed. Since then, Forrester has swapped winter in Hudderstield for summer in Sydney and will join the Great Britain squad in South Africa

after they fly out next week for a two-month training camp. "It was extremely hard jug-gling work and training," she said. "But in some ways I like that because it makes you a tougher person. Getting up at 4am to cycle around Hudderfield in winter is not the nicest feeling, but when I turned up in Japan for the first race last season and looked at everyone else on the starting line, I appreciated what I'd been through to get there."

Forrester admits that even her own family have ques-tioned her sanity. "Most of my family live in Aberdeen and can't really believe what I'm doing. It probably seems like I've spent eight years at university to get a good degree and career prospects, just to throw it away on triathlon. But they feel better now because they've seen my results and realise I'm good our favour, because ours is a 1 enough. I've been involved in combination of not getting on When 1 was going through



Forrester pounds around the track during a recent training stint at Bath University

shown enough ability to go full time in anything."

Nevertheless, Fortester swam for Scotland during the mid-1980s. "I took it very seriously," she said. "It was a tough routine, training twice a day early mornings and even a day early mornings and eve-nings, but I loved it. More so than the competition, because I'm not a swimmer."

That realisation came in 1987, while at Edinburgh University. "I was swimming pretty badly," she said. "It was a sport since I was 10, but never with the coach and putting the influential stage. Aber- ed to receive her third honour er comes into my path."

most emphasis on my course. because I was enjoying it so much."

Four years later, Cam-bridge University opened her mind to other sports and fired an interest in triathlon. "I did swim for a year or so, to get my Blue for my CV to be hon-est," she said. "But I played football, which is huge at Cambridge, with 45 women's teams in the inter-collegiate league, because it was something I always wanted to do.

deen were one of the best clubs in Europe. They won the Cup Winners' Cup in 1983 and the whole city was football daft."

Forrester became the university captain and passed an FA coaching certificate. It also led to her second Blue. "It's actually much easier to get a Blue at Cambridge than it is at Edinburgh," she said, 'The system at Cambridge was a complete joke because it was so political."

<sup>6</sup> I'm going for the Olympics, and giving up my job and flat doesn't worry me 7

 in athletics. "A friend of mine started to drag me out running after he'd started to train with a Kiwi guy who'd done a lot of triathlons," she said. "I got into the athletics team at university and stepped on the track for the first time at the beginning of May in my final year. About four weeks later I had my

ет sporting ambitions became set on triathion and she took a twoyear post-doctoral position at Sydney University to test her ability. "I picked it because of triathlon." Forrester said. "I wanted somewhere warm to train but also to have some fun because I'd worked pretty hard to get my PhD."

Within six months she sustained a stress fracture of her ankle. "I did too much training," she said. "I wasn't able to run for almost a year but that helped me to adjust to cycling. I hadn't done much before so it was actually very exciting, seeing this rapid improvement in my times. It did cross my mind to stay in Australia, but I wanted to come back and make the Brit-

Next she wants Olympic gold. "I was five minutes behind the winner in the world championships last August," she said. "But if I'd improved my swimming by 30 seconds I would have got into a better biking pack. That could have cost three minutes, so I know I'm close. Beating the Australians will be tough, but I'm going for the Olympics, and giving up my job and my flat doesn't worry me. For this



Newton sends the pigeons flying at the launch of the Linda McCartney cycling team in London yesterday

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

When the defenders have winners in two suits, judging which to eash can be difficult. This example is from the 1998 Gold Cup semi-final between Cohen and Price.

.*	Dealer	North	Love all	IMPs	
•	1997	100	4 KQ7	periodical telescope	
	111		♥ 1032 ♦ 765		
•			4 QJ107	and the second	
		<b> </b>	W E	♣ J10 ♥ KJ64 ♦ 01092 ♣ 962	
٠.			<b>♣ 865432</b>		
,2			ØA54.	indones de la companya de la company	-
 	i de la composición del composición de la compos	N	♣K8. E		
	Doub	Pass	Pas Dou	s 15 ble Pess	
	3 C All Pa	Pasi 189	3D	35	
٠,٠	Coolers	d- Three Speids	e by South, Le	d: four of diamonds.	

declarer could ruff, draw I was East, playing with trumps and get his diamond Howard Cohen. My double of North's Two Spades was "responsive", not penalty; it away on a club. There were two separate ways in which West should

says I want to compete the get the situation right. First, he could continue with a low Declarer (David Price) took the queen of diamonds with the ace and continued with heart after winning the ace of spades. Then when East wins the king of clubs. West should duck this, but he won. with the jack he can tell that West must have four hearts (else he would have led cashed the king of diamonds and when I played the ten, switched to a low heart. I queen and another). So East switches to a diamond, playplayed the king and declarer won with the ace. Now ing West for the jack. The other way West can tell that East has four diamonds and declarer erred by playing a spade - had he played chibs throwing away red losers, the lectarer erred by playing a pade - had he played chibs hrowing away red losers, the lefence have no chance. West correctly took the ace of spades, and now we were not the cash-out situation I mention above. Deciding to lay me for an initial heart looking of KJz, he led queen l defence have no chance. of spades, and now we were in the cash-out situation I

and another heart, and so section on Saturday. WORD-WATCHING

mention above. Deciding to play me for an initial heart

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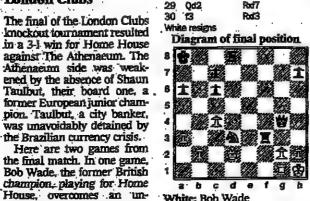
MORILLO -

By Philip Howard HESVAN a. A fast b. The thigh c. A French Department b. A month

MAHAH a. A bluff b. A sage

BY RAYMOND KEENE Qg4 Ka8 Nd3 CHESS CORRESPONDENT Re1 **London Clubs** Rxf7 Rd3 The final of the London Clubs

KEENE on CHESS



White: Bob Wade Black: Kester George London Clubs, 1999

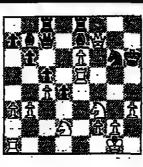
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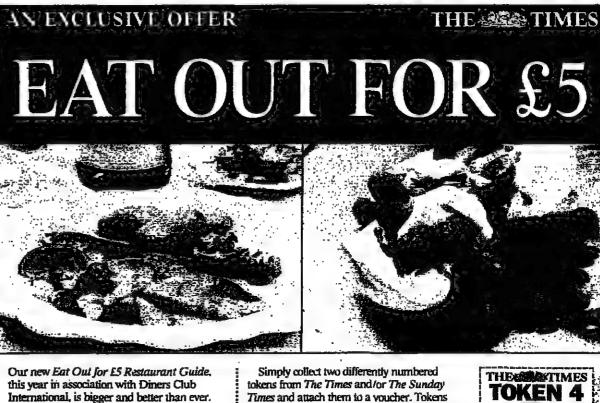
White to play. This position is from the game Eriksson-Tem-

By Raymond Keene

plier, European junior, 1998. The pawn cover in front of the black king has been blast-ed away. How did White now complete the demolition? Solution on page 50



www.chess2\_lostcity.nl/hoog-



The guide lists more than 820 restaurants where you and up to five friends can enjoy a special Times menu for just £5 each. Restaurants where you can dine out in style for next to nothing include Battersea Barge, London, SW8 and Veronica's British Restaurant, Hereford Road, W2. Both were highly recommended by Times readers last year.

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will be published daily until Sunday February 7. Bookings must be made in advance and you should tell the restaurant you want The Times £5 offer and confirm what your £5 meal consists

of. The offer is valid until March 7, 1999. Offer available in Britain only. A full listing of restaurants is available on the Internet at: www.4-D.co.uk.

if you did not get a copy of our restaurant guide with send an A4-size sae, with a 39p stamp attached, to: PO Box 481, Customer Services, Level 6, Virginia Str 

THE TIME

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CHANGING TIMES

Diners Chib

# Doctor with the right prescription for future of Games

BRYANTS

Couhertin's Games took the route

of being grand and greedy, with

professionalism, commercialisa-tion and ultimately, corruption, bribery, drugs and cheating. Where once he called on the youth of the world to gather to celebrate

sport, we now see ageing mobsters in blazers and junkies in track-suits. Dr Brooker's games, on the

other hand, have have remained

ne of the first visits by a member of the Interna-tional Olympic Committee to an "Olympic venue" was not to Salt Lake City or Nagano, but to the sleepy Shrop-shire town of Much Wenlock. The visit was made long ago by the mighty Baron Pierre de Coubertin. and true to what was to become a controversial Olympic practice, he was given a priceless gift - in this case it was the complete blueprint for the revival of the modern Olympic Games.

It was given to him by a colour-ful local hero, Dr William Penny Brookes, who started his own version of the games modelled on those of classical Greece in 1850. De Coubertin liked the idea so much that, in time, he was to claim it for his own, but after meeting Brookes he noted: "If the Olympic Games, that modern Greece has not yet been able to revive, still survives today it is due, not to a

The old baron should have paid even closer attention to the good doctor, for when the two sat down together in the low-beamed bar of an old Wenlock coaching inn, the

De Coubertin liked the idea so much that he claimed it himself?

Gaskell Arms, there was one point over which they fiercely disagreed - the siting of the revived games. Norman Wood, now the general secretary of the Wenlock Olympian Society, said: "It is ironic with all this trouble going on with

wanted the games permanently in Greece.\*

Brookes had built up strong contacts with Greece over the staging of his games and in 1877 George I. the Greek king, donated a silver cup to be awarded to the winner of the pentathion. Brookes paraded banners with Greek inscriptions at his games and winners were honoured with laurel branches and medals bearing the image of Nike - the Greek goddess of victory. De Coubertin, by contrast.

thought that the games would have more impact if they were hawked from continent to continent like a travelling circus. The trouble is, of course, that touting the Games from greedy city to greedy city has landed the Olympics in its biggest mess since 1896. Since that first meeting the two Olympic movements have headed

They both still survive, though

unexploited, unnoticed and virtual-ly broke. Their problem with money is simple. They don't have

A couple of months ago the

house in which Brookes was born and lived came up for sale. For years it had been the headquarters of the local branch of Lloyds Bank and the Wenlock Olympian and the Wenlock Olympian Committee would dearly have loved to have bought it to house their treasured archives. Their appeals to English Heritage and other funding bodies came to nothing and the house was sold to a private buyer for around £200,000. It is not just the people of Much Wenlock who are furning at this missed emportunity. this missed opportunity.

John Disley, a former Olympic steeplechaser and now chairman of the Olympians, a club made up of British Olympic competitors said: "Here is a national sporting site of special importance to the history of sport. Why should we ex-

pect a very small town to preserve it for posterity? They simply can't afford it, yet nobody seems to want to help them. Just imagine if the Germans discovered that they had "invented" the Olympic Games in 1850. Somebody like Mercedes

• We see mobsters in blazers and junkies in tracksuits?

would have poured millions into saving the sites and the archives

The town's meagre sporting facilities, too, are hopelessly run down and, though they have applied to the National Lottery, the 2.500 rate. payers are left to pick up the bills.

De Coubertin's great Games. meanwhile, are going through agonies bought on by a surfeit of money, arrogance and the love of luxury. Presiding over the culture of excess is the successor to de Coubertin, the Spanish marquis,

Samaranch
Much Wenlock has had a regallike visit from Samaranch. He was
there in 1994 to mark the 100th anniversary of the foundation in Paris of what was to become the International Olympic Committee In Lausanne, the IOC had decided that it was time to settle their debt to Dr Brookes, but on this occasion the Olympic supremo left behind him neither wealth nor scandal.

In return for their blueprint of the modern Olympic Games, Much Wentock received an oak tree — a Spanish oak tree, planted by His Excellency Juan Antonio

JOHN BRYANT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

### 'RomoCop' to give no quarter to Falcons



FROM OLIVER HOLT IN MIAMI

THEY call him "the anti-Elway", the dirtiest player in the National Football League (NFL). He is the kind of player that they are trying to airbrush out of this sport, someto seem like an anachronism by the official version of American football that the authorities love to propagate. In that land of anaesthesia, there are no career-ending injuries, no spitting, no gouging, no trench warfare and no room for men

such as Bill Romanowski. Romanowski has become a curiosity. When he appeared at the media day in Pro Player Stadium here on Tuesday. journalists came to stare at him as though they had been allowed into a zoo to gape at a wild animal. They call him a "throwback", someone who plays this game the way it used to be played, back when gridiron fields still got muddy and O.J. Simpson had side-

If the Denver Broncos beat the Atlanta Falcons on Sunday to win their second successive Super Bowl, though, they will owe as much to the scrapping, barging, grappling efforts of their linebacker as they will to the elegant throws of their quarterback, John Elway, or the bulldozing rushing of their running back, Terrell Davis. The Broncos' offense gets most of the praise for their success. but Romanowski is the raging pulse of a defense that has got plenty of fans of its own.

destruction. Creativity is his

enemy and his vocabulary is peppered with words such as "hurr", "hip", "shake" and "rattle". If Deriver are to win, they will have to unsettle the Atlanta offense, with its twin weapons of Chris Chandler, the quarterback, and Jamal Anderson, the running back. "RomoCop" will attempt it by any means necessary. His notoriety hit new

heights last season when he spat in the face of J. J. Stokes during a game against the San Francisco 49ers that was being televised live from coast to coast. And that was after Romanowski had grabbed Stokes in the groin a la Vinnie Jones on Gazza. Other highlights have been a kick administered to the head of a fallen Phoenix Cardinal, a flying head-butt that broke the jaw of Kerry Collins, the Carolina Panthers quarterback, and some late hits on the legendary Jerry Rice that sparked a brawl during training. And

Rice was on the same team. This season he has been tame by comparison. There was just the time that he took out Troy Aikman, the Dallas Cowboys' quarterback, breaking his collarbone and putting him out of action for six weeks. People were upset I didn't show enough sorrow for him." Romanowski sneered. "I just said I couldn't believe he didn't slide out of bounds. As for Collins, that was all about the angle I hit him. Kerry turned his head just as I nailed

Even at the media day,



Romanowski, 32, exuded quiet menace that was all the more fearsome for his control and politeness. He is not as obviously bulky as some of his defensive colleagues, but he possesses the kind of brooding, American blue-collar aggression captured so well in The Deer Hunter. "The noisy ones who go around saying they are so tough usually arent," Mike Shanahan, the Broncos' coach, said. "It's those silent guys you aren't expecting it from who'll sneak up and

crack you." His opponents say he is more than sneaky. "Dirty". "cheap" and "classless" are three of the more generous descriptions that have been offered this week. "Sometimes I wish I was able to play way back 20 or 30 years ago, when being mean and dirty and nasty or whatever they call me was praised rather than criticised." Romanowski said. "Old players keep coming up to me saying, 'Keep it up, Romo." That's great, as long as they pay my fines. I keep play-ing like this, and I'm going to

end up in the poorhouse.

"When I think of a throw-back player, I think of a guy who goes out there and plays every play as if it was his last. I don't try to hurt people, but if you can put a hit on somebody and shake them up for a while, that is what the game is all about. When you can knock people out of the game, you give your team an advantage and that is what it is all about. I just want to do the best for

my team." Romanowski, who won two uper Bowls with the 49ers before he moved to Denver, spends more than \$100,000 of his \$1.4 million (about 5350,000) annual salary on employing a fitness trainer who used to be an Olympic athlete, as well as a chiropractor and a dictician. For a "paid assas-sin" — a team-mate's descrip-

LINKS www.sil cam TELEVISION:

Sky Sports Cire, Sunday 10.30pm (fire)

tion - he is a clinical, calculating player. But the rages he works himself into before games have also become the stuff of anexiotes in the Broncos" locker-room.

Tid become close friends with him." Bubby Brister, the back-up quarterback, said, "spent a lot of time together wives, kids, everything. Then first pre-season game, I'm laughing it up in the lockerroom, slapping Romo in the pads. He looks up, real slow. He's sweating, breathing hard, shaking, working up the rage. I thought, "What in hell is this?" We're talking we'rd. Lunatic time. Jekyll and Hyde

Shanahan has witnessed it too. "I see Romo's eyes glaze over," he said. "I know he wants to whack anybody walking down the street. You can see he's making up real bad stuff that opponents might

have done to his family." On Sunday night, Roman-owski will be thinking about Chandler and Anderson. And they will be thinking about



At work: Romanowski sends a Green Bay Packer flying

RUGBY LEAGUE

#### Leeds face search for Murray's successor

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

GRAHAM MURRAY'S arrival as coach 12 months ago was described as the best move Leeds Rhinos had made in years. Dismay accompanied the surprise announcement yesterday that he would be returning to Australia at the end of the forthcoming season to become head coach of North

Sydney Bears: Leeds were talking to Mur-ray about extending his initial two-year contract when the North Sydney offer, described by him as "too good to refuse". arrived two weeks ago. He is to succeed Peter Louis, their

weigran coach; for the 2000 sea-son, which gives the Rhinos a year to find his replacement. Marray, 44, admitted to sleepless agents before agree-ing a differ-year deal with North Sydney: It has hap-pened fairly quickly. I love what I'm doing, coaching this team and living in Leeds, but I was always going to go home eventually and North Sydney are a strong club in the Nation-

al Rigby League," he said.
With the popular Murray at ne benn, an uniancied Leed became contenders for the JJB Super League title. They were beaten 10-4 by Wigan Warriors in the inaugural Grand Final last October, but after two decades of under-achievement, had re-established themselves as a creditable force. lestyn Harris, Adrian Morley and Darren Fleary, in particu-lar, have thrived under

Murray's tutelage The decision has made Murray even more determined, with the Challenge Cup a fort-night away. There are a lot of good things happening here and I want to be part of them this year. I would like to think I can go out with a bang and that will be at Wembley and the Grand Final: We've got to turn what we did last season into silverware," he said.

After the exhaustive search that resulted in Murray's arrival last January from the defunct Hunter Mariners in Australia, Gary Hetherington, the Leeds chief executive, must begin looking again. "There is no urgency, we now have an eight-strong team of coaches,"

he said. Castleford Tigers have and Counced new club sponsors, the Safestyle UK glazing company, for the 1999 season. Darren Shaw, the Sheffield Eagles forward, has been appointed club captain.

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### Golfing greats awarded lap of honour at Millennium Open

WITH each succeeding week, the European Tour gets further away from Europe. Having spent the first two tournaments of the season in South Africa, the flying circus has decamped to Australia for week three. The players could not go much further without starting to come back.

There were young faces and some not so young abroad yesterday at The Vines, on the outer fringes of Perth, where the Heineken Classic starts today. but the more senior citizens were not looking to the past, as they are sometimes wont to do, but into the future.

Lee Trevino and Gary Player were yesterday celebrating the fact that they and others of a similarly distinguished lineage will be putting on their own special sideshow at the Millennium Open Championship at St Andrews next year. BY MEL WEBB

They are to take part in a parade of old-time winners of golf's oldest major championship when they play the inward nine holes of the Old Course on the Tuesday before the start of the tournament

"Can you imagine how many people would want to watch that? Player said. Yes, and the answer is plenty. Trevino, wisecracking still at 60. and Player, an enduringly trim 63, are at The Vines to compete in a 54-hole tournament running alongside the main event, but will not expect be able to divert the spotlight away from the giants of the modern game.

who has made a more than

satisfactory start to the season by winning the South African PGA title and finishing sixth

in his country's Open. Els lives for major champiouships but last season was a moderate one in that respect. His best finish was sixteenth (in the Masters), but with a troublesome back injury put right, he is looking for a much better year. Sixteenth was also Ian Woosnam's best major finish in 1998, but for the mo-

ment winning anything world do for the Welshman. whose last victory was nearly 18 months ago. Meanwhile, David Duval. whose 59 to win the Bob Hope Classic on Sunday will live with him forever, faces tough opposition in the Phoenix Open, which also starts today. Sixteen of last year's top 20 Leading them is Emie Els, the big, amiable and won-drously gifted South African

US money-winners will be in

### Hallamshire sweep to the top by employing home help

WITH the world's leading men still involved in the Tournament of Champions in New York this week, Hallamshire's decision to retain a largely domestically-employed squad paid off with a 3-2 home win over Manchester Northern that took the Sheffield side to the top of group A in the SRA National League for the first time with 24 points.

Manchester were without Graham Ryding and Nick Taylor, their two top players, but his over-35 tide at the Business Pagers National Chammionships in Manchester next week, contributed a 3-1 second-siring away point against Adam Toes, and Suzame Homer picked up the fifthstring women's point from Cheryl Beautonint. However, the visitors could not contain

the home-court efficiency of

BY COUN MCQUILLAN

Paul Lord, Nick Matthew and Nick Wall in the other men's rubbers.

Ryding and Taylor went out early in the Tournament of Champions, but stayed with other players as referees on the transparent showcourt inside Grand Central Station in New York to exploit growing Anterican interest in the game. In the Tournament of Cham-pions quarter-finals, Peter

Nicol, the British Open champion, defeated Simon Parke, the British national champion. in straight games and now meets his arch-rival, Jonathon Power, of Canada, the world champion, in the semi-finals. Nicol might otherwise have been leading Chingford's UK Packaging squad against Loughborough, whose normal

first string, Alex Gough, lost

another quarter-final in New York to Ahmed Barada, of Egypt Led by Julian Wellings, the Chingford side recorded a 4-1 home win to stay top of

group B with 30 points. Parke normally leads for Nottingham in the National League, but was ably replaced in a 4-1 group A home victory over Duffield by Lee Beachill, with Natalie Grainger, of South Africa, brought in to ensure the fifth-string point against Tania Bailey.

UniS Guildford also had a 4-1 home win, over Lec-on-Solent, to stay top of group C with 32 points, despite the absence of Paul Johnson, their England No I, who needed five hard games to defeat Del Harris for a semi-final place in New York against Barada. Harris is scheduled to meet Johnson again in the national

### Martin Fletcher explains why 30,000 Ulstermen will invade Dublin on Saturday

### Rugby unites troubled Province

an Cup final against Colo-miers on Saturday that one en-terprising Belfast publican. Sydney John, tried to charter a high-speed ferry for 750 supporters to avoid the crush.

His efforts failed. All he could find was an old tub that would take six hours. John and 15 of his bar staff instead queued at Belfast railway sta-tion from 3am last Saturday to snap up 160 train tickets for his most valued customers the moment they went on sale.
"It's unbelievable," he said

of the excitement that the game is generating in Northern Ireland. He has not seen an event that has united this divided province quite like this since Barry McGuigan fought Eusebio Pedrosa for the world featherweight title at Loftus Road in 1985.

AL CENTER LEADING

Leeds fact

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4.000

More than 30,000 supporters will be invading the Irish Republic for the biggest game in Ulster rugby's history, and another 30,000 failed to get tickets. The Antomobile Association has warned that the potoriously awful road between Belfast and Dublin — a reflection of the fraught relations between north and south - will "take a real hammering". Translink, Northern Ireland's bus and railway company, is laying on eight trains, some borrowed from the Republic, and about 100 coaches and mini-buses. "It's huge, abso-lutely huge," said a Translink spokeswoman. "From a public transport point of view, we have never carried this amount of people to one event."

David Trimble and Seamus Mallon, Northern Ireland's Unionist and Nationalist leaders, will be there. So will Mary McAleese, the Irish President, Bertie Ahern, Ireland's Taoiseach, and Mo Mowiam, the Northern Ireland Secretary. For the first time, Lansdowne Road will witness the extraordinary sight of a capacity crowd of 49,000 chanting "Ulster, Ulster", and waving the that are more commonly used



The Ulster players and their supporters celebrate together after the nail-biting semi-final victory over Stade Français at Ravenbill earlier this month

to stake out loyalist territory in :

the North It will be the biggest attendance yet at a European Cup final, and as Jean-Luc Sadourny, the French Interna-tional who captains Colomiers, said last week: "Ulster will have an extra player on the pitch and that will be the

Most sports in Northern Ireland are viewed as Catholic or Protestant, and rugby is no ex-ception. Nationalists would normally feel as little affinity for the game invented by William Webb Ellis at an English public school as they do for cricket, and stick to Gaelic foothall and hurling. Cup fever

Sinn Fein, is planning to attend the game, but when Gaelic football clubs start applying for tickets and the Nationalist Irish News carries the results of Colomiers's games in France, it is clear

that the tradition al sectarian barriers have at least temporarily been lowered. This is hardly

surprising. The Province has had precious little to smile about or celebrate over the past 30 years, and so seizes every chance. Moreover sport has a unique capacity for catching has not yet reached such a

pitch that Gerry Adams, of most hardline Republican could fail to concede that Ulster's epic, giant-killing journey to the final has been utterly compelling.
This is a team that was los-

ing 14-0 after just four minutes

This is a team of indomitable spirit that has already beaten the two best sides in France?

Edinburgh Reivers last September. It is a team with a captain who has been consigned to the sidelines by injury, just the imagination, and only the two players who command

regular places in Ireland's team, wings who are often only substitutes for Ballymeachievement na, and a 35-year-old prop

ball Union's Ulster branch. has no illusions that his team's success will bring any lasting unity, but he does believe its achievements will hasten the day when rugby ceases to be viewed as a Protestant sport. At a time when his organisation is making strenuous efforts to promote the game in Catholic schools and colleges the moment the heroes of a child in a Catholic area are

year, but that should in no way detract from Ulster's

Michael Reid, chief execu-tive of the Irish Rugby Foot-"it can only belo," he says. "At

going to be Gaelic sports heroes. We're now offering them other heroes."

### Mason on ideal stage in Ulster's finest hour

By David Hands RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE same XV that played so nobly against Stade Français will carry Ulster's hopes into the final of the European Cup at Lansdowne Road on Saturday. The intervening three weeks since that memorable Belfast semi-final, won 33-27, have taken no toll on Ulster resources as they prepare for the most significant day in the rugby history of the Province.

The only amendment restores Stanley McDowell, the utility back, to the replacements against a Colomiers team that is likely to start with Jean-Luc Sadourny and Fabien Galthie, the two France internationals, at full back and scrum half respectively, though they may not finish. Colomiers will not confirm their XV until tomorrow, but the fitness record this season of both players is poor and Sadourny has already admitted that, if he plays in the final, he is unlikely to be available to play for France against Ireland the following

Saturday will Simon Mason with the ideal stage on which to remind the Ireland selectors of his talents. There was surprise in the prov-ince when Ulster's leading points scorer — 126 points in Europe this season — was overlooked from the national training squad released 48 hours after the victory over Stade Français, but a packed house at Lansdowne Road will test Mason's maturity.

The former Richmond full back, now 25, can only make the replacements bench of the A team to play France at Don-nybrook on February 5 and if he is to add to the three full caps he won in 1996, he has to force past Conor O'Shea.

VILSTER: 8 Mason: S Coulier, J Cunning-hern, J Bell, A Part; D Humphreya (coptain), A Maschet: J Filopatrick, A Clarke, R Invent, 4 Blair, G Longwell, S McKinty, A Ward, A McWhirlar, Replacementer: S McDowel, B

### Gatland has selection puzzle to solve

By DAVID HANDS

ONLY four members of the Ulster side that has enjoyed such an outstanding season in European competition have won consideration by Ireland for the opening round of the Five Nations Championship on Saturday week. Of that quartet, David Humphreys. the fly half, is the one likely to cause Warren Gatland, the national coach, the most heartache as he de: mines his XV to start against France at Lansdowne Road.

Gatland must go either with the tried and trusted Eric Elwood as his pivot, or with Humphreys, who has been in inspirational form as captain of his province. But part of Ireland's pre-Christmas prob-lem was the inability of their back division to pose a consistent threat or, indeed, any threat at all at a time when they possess a combative

Gatland and Elwood go back a long way in Connacht rugby and the coach knows precisely what he can extract from a player who is also his country's goalkicker. If he opts for Humphreys, Gatland must also give the goalkicking duties to Humphreys or to Conor O'Shea, neither of whom kick regularly for prov-ince or club; but Humphreys is playing so confidently that he may be preferred.

Of Ulster's other three representatives, Jonathan Bell and Andy Ward are certain starters, but Justin Fitzpatrick must serve his time behind the experienced props, Peter Clobessy and Paul Wallace

There may be surprise in Munster that David Corkery has not found a place among the back-row forwards, but Gatland is keeping his op-tions open by naming Eric Miller and Victor Costello alongside Ward and Dion O'Cuinneagain, who will surely be the first-choice flankers.

Graham Henry, the Wales coach, is almost certain to be without Gareth Thomas, the Cardiff wing, who is still recovering from a shoulder operation, going into his first Five Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday week. Henry may aiso be without Craig Quin-nell, the Richmond lock who suffered knee damage in his club's 23-11 Premiership defeat by Leicester on Tuesday. Allan Bateman may provide cover on the wing rather than his club position of centre.

his club position of centre.

HELAND SCHAD (I France): Backs: C
O'Sines (London Intel), G Desaposy (Teveruse Cotago), J Batabop (London Intel),
Bell (Dungannon), K Magge (Both), R
Henderson (Waspa), E Elevood (Goweglens), D Humphreys (Dungannon), C
Sector (Cotago), C Scally
(UCD), Forwards: R Configen
(Landowne), J Fitzpatrick (Dungannon),
P Clohessy (Young Munsten), P Walked
(Sensoene), R Readale (Newcaste), K
Wood (Hethequins), J Davidson (Castres), M O'Relly (London Irish), P Johns
(Sensoene), V Containo (St Mary's College), A Ward (Ballynahinch), E Miller
(I sensuare College), D O'Culmusegain
(Sale),
WALES SCHAD (v Scotland): Backs: S
Humarin (Lano, R Sensoen (Portypridd),
D Masses, Portypridd), M Robbinson
(Swansea), G Thomas (Cardiff), A Sateman (Richmond), M Taylor (Swansea), S
Gibbs (Swansea), J Humphreys (Cardiff), C
Anthony (Swansea), J Humphreys (Cardiff), C
Chardig, Swansea), J Humphreys (Cardiff), C
Chardon, C Wyatt (Llanell), M Voyle
(Lianelli), I Gough (Portypridd), S
Calinnell (Lanelli),

### Russ happy to beat his of an upset at Loftus Road. Try that old boot, bite and balls cliché. We're not going to beat them on fitness, skill drum to different tune

ony Russ spent six years as director of rugby at Leicester when they and Bath hogged the prizes, but those times are a fading memory. Heady days at Welford Road have given way to grun economic reality in the rugby backwater of Liverpool. Monday morning at Bhindell-sands and £400 gate receipts from the previous match on Saturday is meagre even by the standards of Waterloo In the bar of the wooden

clubhouse, Russ, 52, director of rugby at Waterloo, encapsulated the view of most clubs outside the Allied Dunbar Premiership elite. I don't think there's any desire here to get into the first division." he said. "We simply couldn't hack it financially. The objective of the likes of Waterloo is to manage your resources so you don't go also the bitt bust, and within those limita-tions, to be as successful as March 1996.

Waterioo occupy fifth place

Wasps in the Tetley's Cup fifth round. "Of course, I miss visiting those places and we're

all looking forward to it, but I hardly see it as a plum be. It's going to be hard to win and we're not going to make that much money, but you've only got to look what Henley did to a cup upset Bedford to see what's possi-

ble," he said. In 1993, the year Leicester won the cup under Russ; Waterloo sprung: one of the biggest surprises in the 27-year history of the competition when they eliminated Bath. The cup holds mostly happy memories for Russ, but also the bitter one of his departure from Leicester in

Leicester had just reached their third final in four years in the second division. On and were eyeing a second sucChristopher

Irvine meets the coach plotting

was shown the door. The timing still rankles. "In the end Leicester lost the league and cup, which I'm not saying had anything to do with me leaving, but I never saw the sense in not waiting." Russ said.
"The trouble was that we were being massively criti-

cised for our style of play, but we were merely playing to our strengths. The board didn't like the flak and wanted to get back to the days when they had backs like Dodge, Cus-Sunday, they are away at cessive league title when he worth, Woodward and Hare

to play with. I've lots of positive feelings for the club, just negative ones for one or two individuals."

Russ; who thrived on the homespun environment at Leicester, then took charge of Ulster. He described the players there as "the best group I've worked with, not in talent necessarily, but attitude". However, he parted company with the club after just three months — partly because of frustration at seeing the players so infrequently and also because of a generous offer by Waterloo to become their

director of rugby.
On Saturday, Russ will be in front of the television in his white shirt cheering for Ulster, whose chances of beating Colomiers in the European Cup final he rates marginally higher than his own side this weekend.

or tactics, but maybe on effort." Russ said. As to the money Waterloo

hoped to attract once Russ

who four years ago was play-

ing social rugby only.
It is a team of indomitable

score of Ulster's gloriously im-

probable victory over Stade

Français on January 9 from

the Ravenhill scoreboard. It is

true that England's teams boy-

cotted the tournament this

spirit that beat the two best

teams in France

in the quarter and semi-finals,

and the grounds-

man, Brian Elli-

ott, has yet to re-

move the 33-27

was installed, none has materialised. He was promised a £15,000 bonus for promotion "and Father Christmas lives," he said. The caustic humour is symptomatic of rugby's ills and the fears that Russ has for the wider game if the first-division clubs ever ring-fenced an Angio-Welsh

This sport is now financially driven, but create a self-perpetuating elite and remove promotion and relegation and what incentive is there for a chih like Waterloo?" he said. "After three years mismanagement, when the game's lost sight of the ball and concentrated on the action in committee rooms, even the lifelong enthusiast gets a bit lamdiced."

Not, you fancy, if the Drummers and Ulsterboth triumph



be beaten by Wasps on Sunday through lack of effort

### 'Appalling' RFU faces challenge

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT. THE Rugby Football Union

(RFU) has arranged a special. general meeting on March 28 for consideration of the streamlining proposals set in train by the working party of Budge Rogers, the junior vice-presi-dent of the union; but instead they may find their own management board forcibly streamlined if the Reform

Group can carry the day.

The self-styled group, established as a support body for Cliff Brittle and Fran Cotton (their president) when they both held office on the RFU management board, has accused the present board of bringing the game in England into disrepute and seeks a vote of no confidence. In this respect they have

merely bided their time; the group threatened to press for a special general meeting last autumn after Brittle lost the chairmanship of the RFU board but decided instead to hold a watching brief. Now their patience has run out, after seeing an embattled RFU elimb down last week from confrontation with their partners on the Five Nations Com-

The game is in crisis." Martyn Thomas, the Reform Francis Baron, the new chief Group chairman, said yesterday. The RFU management, months in office.

The second second second second

board has brought the game into disrepute through the most crass management conceivable. Their track record is appall-

ing. They fought the Five Nations and lost They keep fighting the International Board and losing. They have fallen out with the European Rugby Cup. They can't even agree among themselves. They have brought the game into public ridicule and have not given the vast majority of clubs any sort of leadership." The group believes it carries

support from a significant number of clubs in the second division of the Allied Dunbar Premiership, as well as lower down the rank and file of the game, and that it will comfortably raise the 100 clubs needed to press for an SGM. Their suggestion is that their vote of no confidence in the board from which they specifically exclude Peter Trunkfield, the RFU president — should be heard at the March 28 meet-

Whether their chief target -Brian Baister, voted in as chairman last July deserves such flak after six months' firefighting is a most point, while

### Carling voted best of British tionals in the Lloyds TSB Five

n in-depth survey of the game — conduct-ed on behalf of Lloyds TSB, the new sponsors of the Five Nations Championship — reveals some interesting statistics. Almost 60 per cent of those guestioned felt the Five Nations was more exciting than the Tri-Nations, Wales were voted the most passionate nation in the championship, and the All Blacks the best team in the

The respondents were divid-ed equally on whether profes-sionalism had been good or bad for the game, but the results provided a glimmer of hope for Will Carling, who is contemplating a new career in Japan. He was considered, by some distance, the best British player of the last 25 years.

Back on Beeb

Rugby makes a return to the BBC network this weekend when the European Cup final between Ulster and Colomiers at Lansdowne Road is screened live by the BBC on Grandstand this Saturday. The following day club rugby is featured in Sanday Grandstand on BBC2 with extensive highlights of the Allied Dunbar Premiership clash between Wasps and Bath.

plate. Fast forward to this Jan-The Beeb intends to cover uary and Walker was ready to one of the top games every weekend for the rest of the sea-son. Eight of the ten interna-against Hull, but Walker deson. Eight of the ten interna-

also being shown live, start-ing on February 6 with a dou-ble-header — Ireland v France at 2.15pm and Scotland v Wales at 4.15pm.

Referees wanted Clive Norling, the former inter-national referee, has thrown his considerable weight behind a Welsh Rugby Union drive to attract more men in the middle: Faced with a shortage of officials, the union is appealing for those with "good

sight" and "a calm nature" to take up the whistle. Norling said: "Refereing can be very lonely — no one wants to be hated, it's crucial to have good eyesight and fit-ness, a tough skin and a sense of humour."

Breaking story Is Chris Walker the unluckiest rugby player in Britain? The Hull Ionians centre has just collected his third broken leg in as many years and his

fourth in all. The story really began when he broke his left leg for a second time in a match against rivals Hull two years ago. A year on he broke the same leg again, which re-quired the insertion of a steel



cided to pull out, believing himself cursed. The Hull match was called off, with Market Rasen taking their place. Walker breathed a sigh of relief and played. Result— the same broken left leg. "The nurse in casualty at

Hull Royal Infirmary actually knew my date of birth when they brought me in," he said. Needless to say, Chris will not tisk his luck or his left leg in

Quins off key

Rootball club songs have tended to be excruciatingly bad, so let's hope Harlequins' rendition of The Mighty Quin doesn't fall into that category. Last week the entire squad got together to record a cover version in aid of several charities, including the Richard Langhorn Trust According to Jason "Luciano" Leonard, it won't make No l. "Players

missed cues, there wasn't much harmony and some of the guys couldn't stop laughing. It took two hours to record, but I haven't heard the finished product yet," he said. Sounds like a collector's item.

Motley brew Who said beer had no place in

the modern, clean-cut profes-sional game? Loose Talk is indebted to CAMRA's 1999 Good Beer Guide for the fol-lowing England XV, whose names (just about) are also that of breweries. We make no apology for abusing the odd spell-ing or possessive. Location of the brewery is in brackets:

The Drewery Is In Drackets

Peul Hull (Hull), Andy Hancock (s) (Cardiff), Alex King and Stuart Barnes (Horsham, King and Barnes), Peter Thompson (s) (Assituation), Pichard Starp (s) (Wadebridge), Malcolm Young (s) (Wandeworth), Kewh Ystes (Aspetria), Seve Brain (s) (Cardiff), The Judge (s) (Rugby), Garain Archer (s) (Swindon), John Holigherts) (blick Sidmer (s) (Truro), Andy Pobinson (s) (Stockport), John Scott (s) (Lowestoth).

Matches, or course, to be played at The Brewery Field, Bridgend.

And finally ... don't say we aren't generous. Next week the column will be running a competition to win a pair of tickets for the sell-out Calcutta Cup game at Twickenham on February 20, courtesy of The Famous Grouse. Full details and some hugely difficult questions next week

MARK SOUSTER

### **London Scottish** attract new bid

By MARK SOUSTER

A LEADING Scottish businessman emerged yesterday as a rival contender to buy London Scottish, Brian Kennedy, 38, who made his fortune from the Weatherseal window company, has been talking to Tony Tiarks, the club owner, for several days and hopes to conclude a deal by the weekend. Whether that means Lon-

don Scottish ultimately relocating to Edinburgh is unclear. If he is successful it would mean that Bristol had failed in their attempt to take over the club in order to ensure a place in the first division of the Allied Dun-bar Premiership. Malcolm Pearce, the Bristol owner, has been playing down his club's interest recently.
Sources close to Tiarks sug-

gest the Monaco-based financier is confident that a sale will be secured by the weekend. Kennedy, whose business empire is based in Cheshire, has been keen to buy into a sports club. Last year, he failed in his attempt to take a controlling interest in Hibernian football club from Sir

Tom Farmer, of KwikFit. Kennedy is understood to have held discussions with the Scottish Rugby Union about the proposed takeover. How the union would react to a Scottish-based professional club

playing in the Allied Dunbar Premiership is uncertain, but it cannot be enamoured by the prospect of having such a counter-attraction to its own domestic clubs on its doorstep.

Ken Scobie, the London Scottish president, said a move to Edinburgh would not be in the best interests of the members. He would not confirm Kennedy's identity, saying only that he had been in discussions with an interested party since Bristol's unwelcome overtures were made public.

"The interested party is do-ing a valuation of the situation and has had discussions with Tiarks," he said. "He is hoping to make a decision by the end of the week. While moving to Edinburgh might be in the interests of Scottish rugby, it would be as bad for London Scottish members as moving to Bristol would be.

The structure of London Scottish is such that Kennedy would be buying Tiarks's stake in London Scottish Rugby Club Ltd, the professional operation that is one of two subsidiaries of London Scottish Rugby plc, in which Tiarks has a 38 per cent stake. The second subsidiary, London Scottish Ventures, owns the club's 50 Richmond Athletic Ground.

GREGOR MICHURITRIE / PAGE ONE

### McAteer's arrival cushions blow for Blackburn

By STEPHEN WOOD

THE arrival of Jason McAteer could not have come at a better time for Blackburn Rovers. McAteer, the midfield player, yesterday completed a £4 million transfer from Liverpool while Tim Sherwood, the captain at Ewood Park, was preparing a move to Totten-

ham Hotspur. McAteer, the Ireland international, had seen his career at Liverpool deteriorate in recent months and, once talk's were opened, it did not take long for Brian Kidd, the Blackburn manager, to persuade McAteer that his future lay with the club.

Those same powers of persuasion failed when Sherwood was on the other side of the negotiating table. Sherwood, who has played more than 200 matches in the FA Carling Premiership for Blackburn. has made no secret of the fact that he wants a new challenge. He fell out with Roy Hodgson, the former manager at Blackburn, but then raised hopes that he would stay by reacting positively to the appointment of Kidd as successor to

Hodgson. Kidd has revitalised the club's fortunes on the field but, ultimately, it came down to the size of financial contract Blackwood. Despite the fact that there are still three years to run on his present deal, club officials met with Sherwood late on Tuesday night to thrash out their final offer.

Yesterday there was confirmation that the package, believed to be worth around £25,000 a week to Sherwood, was not enough. "We cannot go any further," John Wil-liams, the chief executive, said. Tottenham, who had one bid turned down earlier this season, are expected to make another attempt to take Sher-wood back to his native South East, with Blackburn prepared to listen to offers starting at around £4 million.



### West rejects move to Newcastle

By GEORGE CAULKIN

RUUD GULLIT'S bid to sign Taribo West, the Internazionale and Nigeria centre half, ended in failure last night when the player rejected personal terms believed to be in excess of £30,000 per week. Despite Inter having agreed a £4.2 million transfer with Newcastle United, West has decided to stay and fight for his place at the San Siro

Given West's public spat side's new Romanian coach, that outcome had appeared a distant prospect when New-castle officials travelled to Italy last week to begin negoti-

ations for the player. Optimism had been high, and coming on the back of the failed medical that foiled Ibrahim Ba's proposed £3 million transfer from Paris Saint-Germain last month. West's refusal to move to Typeside is another significant blow for Gullit. The Newcastle manager remains hopeful, however, of signing Ba's team-mate. Alain Goma, 26, the defender. Players' union officials are furious over reported remarks by Frank Leboeuf, the Chelsea defender, accusing them of having "too cosy a relation-ship" with the Football Association to cut down the number of matches that leading players have to play.

sional Footballers' Associaexecuave. abroad on business yesterday. but a PFA spokesman said: Gordon will be very upset if these comments are correct." Aston Villa appeared to be edging ahead of Middlesbrough yesterday in the race to sign Juninho from Atletico

Gordon Taylor, the Profes-

Birmingham for talks. Arsenal are reported to be having talks with Kaba Diawara, the Bordeaux striker, over a £3 million move.

Madrid when the Brazil

midfield player travelled to

Sherwood has been eager to show the supporters at Ewood them but, approaching his 30th birthday next week, the lure of one more big-money move appears to be too strong for him to ignore, Blackburn's next match is against Spurs, at home on Saturday, and if the deal has not gone through, Sherwood is unlikely to be in-

volved at all. His imminent departure would be a bigger blow for Kidd if he had not clinched the signing of McAteer, a player who is expected to step straight into his new side's midfield on Saturday. The deal has been a protracted one, with Blackburn's initial offer of cash plus Sebastién

Perez falling through.

Blackburn then had a cashonly offer of £3.5 million turned down by Liverpool before the clubs agreed the fee yesterday morning. Even then, there was a potential stumbling block in personal terms. McAteer last season signed a four-year deal at Anfield, guaranteeing him around £1.2 million a year. Blackburn, their position strengthened because of Sherwood's refusal to commit himself, were able to match that.

It ends a frustrating spell for McAteer. He joined Liverpool, the club he supported growing up on Merseyside, for £4.5 mil-lion from Bolton Wanderers in 1995. Although a first-team reg-ular for two seasons, his career never took off. He has since gained a tag as a utility player, but Kidd has empha-sised his desire to use him in central midfield, McAteer's favourite position.

Last season, McAteer's progress at Liverpool was hampered even further when, playing against Blackburn at Antield, he sustained a broken leg. He had recovered by the end of the season, but the confirmation of Gerard Houllier as sole manager sounded the death knell to his time at

Despite the rejection by merwood, kida wili de nappi at the way his revolution is progressing at Blackburn. He has certainly acted on the promis-es of Jack Walker, the club's multimillionaire owner. Walker insisted that funds would be made available to Kidd to enable him to rebuild the the squad. Since taking charge little more than a month ago. Kidd has signed Keith Gillespie, Ashley Ward, Matt Jansen and now McAteer in deals worth a total of £14.5

5

Female 🔲

254

### Penalty failure concludes Repton's interest

Wolverhampton GS. (Wolverhampton win 6-5 on penalties)

By IVO TENNANT

PENALTY-TAKING is no less unnerving for a schoolboy than a seasoned professional. After six goals and extra time. Tom Newcombe, the Repton goalkeeper, was giv-en the responsibility of keep-ing his team level with Wolverhampton Grammar School in the dreaded penalty shoot-out. Alas for him, his shot struck a post and the ball slithered away into the enveloping gloaming.

Poor Newcombe. Most of Repton's pupils, it seemed, had gathered in front of the 12th-century Old Priory to see if their first XI could reach the final of the Boodle and Dunthorne Cup, the competition for independent schools that they have never won. In the final, Wolverhampton will meet either Ardingly or Hampton GS, whose semi-final was postponed yesterday.

In sporting terms, Repton is famous, among other things, for educating C.B. Fry and the fact that Derby County will be sending boys there on scholarships from next September. The advantage Wolverhampton have, is in playing football as a main sport in both of the winter

Six of Repton's team were involved in a national indoor hockey competition last weekend. Jean-Paul Gordon, who fills the role of centre forward in both sports, scored the first goal after a direct run by Akpofure and, like his goal keeper, missed a penalty in the shoot-out. Twice they took the lead against opponents who had to make four positional changes.



Gordon, left, the Repton striker, who is also a useful hockey player, tustles with his Wolverhampton marker, Bate, in the Boodle and Dunthome Cup semi-final

wise have not won this cup. began with a 3-1-42 formation; but were sufficiently organised to be able to toy with that Football has become an increasingly popular sport in the independent sec-tor and such sophistication is a tribute to the level of coaching found within it.

Wolverhampton equalised through a neat thip by Baker and took the lead after a lan-

guid run and low cross by Bolton was finished off by Turner at the far post. A header by Dan Rippon, led to extra time. He scored again, when Lancaster let the ball slip under his body.

Bate then equalised for Wolverhampton in the second half of extra time. It was a pity that a skilful, clean match had to be decided on a shoot out, for the boys involved will remember any

lapses for the rest of their lives. But there should be no. stopping Repton in this or any other competition when Derby County's trainees arrive in the autumn.

REPTON (44-2; TNewcombe — J NüholB.; J Gordon, O Ford, R Alcop — M Jones,
A Akpolure (sub; D Ropon, Thrini), D BaixR.; A Magolice; — J-P Gordon, M Rippon
(sub; S Pearson, 64)

WOLVERHAMPTON GS (3-1-4-2); C Lancaster; — A Bats, J Collins, S Duy)— J
Shodge! — R Bolton (sub; A Worthington,
88, J Center, TBaker, A Specige! — A Senbox, A Turner,
Referess P Jones.

SNOOKER

### Walker revived by crisp break

BY PHIL YATES

ON ANOTHER day when the formbook proved much more reliable than of late. John Parrott was the only prominent player to be beaten by a relative unknown in the second round of the Regal

Welsh Open at Cardiff Interna-tional Arena yesterday.

Parrott emerged as front-runner for the £5,000 highest-break award with a 142 total clearance but scored only one point in the closing two frames of his 5-4 defeat by Lee Walker, the 1997 young player of the year, who has achieved little of note since maching the quar-ter-finals of the world champi-

onship that year.

Walker stole the fifth frame
on the black with a 43 clearance to lead 3-2 but subsequently faced a 4-3 deficit. However, he resolutely won the eighth frame with a run of 57 before constructing a 65 break in the decider, even though the black was out of

commission throughout.

Matthew Stevens, whose 138 was removed from the top of the list of high breaks by Par-rou's clinical efforts, enjoyed ample compensation. Once again he displayed a healthy level of self-assurance in rallying from 42 down to beat Stephen Lee 5-4.

Next on the agenda for Stevens will be Stephen Hendry. The Scot, who completed his 5-2 win over Darren Clarke with a 104 break, is impressed by Stevens and baffled by the bookmakers' anie-post decision to offer the Welshman at generous odds of 50-1 to collect the £60,000 first prize.

"It's one of the great mysteries why the bookmakers still continue to make me second or third favourite for every title and put Matthew with the outsiders," Hendry said. Mark Williams, attempting

to join the select band of players who have prevailed in consecutive tournaments, white-washed Chris Small 5-0 while Alain Robidoux, a Canadian who arrived in Cardiff having lost 15 consecutive matches. recorded his second victory in as many days by beating Mike Dunn 5-1.

it was also a satisfying day ior stuart bingham, the 1996 world amateur champion from Basildon, and Patrick Wallace, one of a handful of university graduates in professional snooker. They both reached a personal milestone by ensuring debut appearances in the last 16.

Bingham edged Gerard Greene 54 on a respotted black; Wallace, the surprise first-round conqueror of Ken Doherty, highlighted his 5-1 win over Tony Chappel with contributions of 52, 62 and 109.

### Reid must buy to close class divide

BARELY had the burger wrappers been ti-died away, the bars replenished and the pitch coaxed back into verdant life than, turnstiles at the Stadium of Light were clicking once again last night. Another big crowd, more FA Carling Premiership opposition, further proof that Sunderland are getting things appreciably right.

A day after the first team's 2-1 home de-

feat by Leicester City in the first leg of the Worthington Cup semi-final, a record attendance in excess of 20,000 was anticipated for the Pontins League Premier Division march with Liverpool, drawn by the prospect of free entry, or perhaps the chance to glimpse players such as Steve McManaman or Rigobert Song. Yet for all the slick public relations, the glowing BY GEORGE CAULKIN

new ground, the community work and the considerable success on the nekt. There is little sense of smug contentment. When even Bob Murray, the Sunderland chairman, says: "The only thing that we're confident of at this stage is not getting relegat-ed," the mentality is clear; seeing does not necessarily equate with believing.

For the club have been here before each year a new dawn that never broke most recently in 1996, when Sunderland became champions of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division and Leicester sneaked into the play-offs and joined Peter Reid's team in promotion. It was then their paths separated and it is this that causes most grievance on Wearside.

Martin O'Nefll's side have fashioned security and more from limited resources, yet on Tuesday the gap in class was yawning. that Gavin McLanns, ridoste in two goals from Tony Cottee was more than a touch fortunate seemed appropriate. Reid has the financial muscle to close it.

but whether he will choose to spend is far from certain. "I won't be rushed into buy-ing," is his familiar refrain. It is ten months ago that Middles-

brough, then second in the Nationwide League first division, spent £3.45 million on Paul Gascoigne. His three-year contract and £1.5 million salary seemed a risk, but it delivered a message of intent to rival teams. Sunderland have been sending out similar bulletins all season; per-haps a final warning is now appropriate.

#### THE SUNDAY TIMES Valentine's Day IN ASSOCIATION WITH The Sunday Times offers you the opportunity to place a Valentine's message in the paper on Sunday February 14th 1999. In addition we will send a 50ml bottle of tommy girl (RRP \$25) or tommy (RRP £22) together with a note which tommy reads "Look for your message in the Sunday Times on Valentine's Day" The cost is from £35for a minimum 3 line message and a 50ml fragrance. Please indicate whether the male or tommy female fragrance is required by ticking the relevant box below. The most romantic message published will win a romantic holiday for two"\*\* €35 - £35 3 235 4 £42 5 £48

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FA UBERRO TROPHY: Postported: Westan-super-libert v Raund: Town PIFA RANGUNGS: 1. Beard 22968. 2. France 787. equal 3. Crooks and bay 745. 5. German 742. 6. Appetrus 723. 7. Casch Republic 726. 8 Holland 122. 9 Spean 703. 10 Romana 636 Other plecings: 11. England 637, 26. Scarland: 657, 74 Viales 446. Tuesday's late results WORTHINGTON CUP: Semi-final, the large Sunderland I Lencester 2 NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Second divi-NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Second division: Bournemouth 3 Presson 1, Eathern 1 Outram 0: Macates field 0 Methad 2: Third division: Peterburough 1 Hull 1 AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Northern section, quanter-division: Hattepool 0 Lincoin Ch. 3 Cartish 0 W 3 an 3 SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Second division: Suring 1 Queen of South 3 Third division: Condenteath 0 Straton 2: East Suring 1 Ourneston 2: Queen's Pair 4 Stenhousenur 1 Servicy D Farsley Cabe O Ganestroadio United first division Cup: Second round: Wiccon 2 Germa 2. Dr. MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Martens LEAGUE: Premier division: Martens LEAGUE: Second division: Horards and Faliasteric Horards 2 St Leonards 3. RYMAN LEAGUE: Second division: Horards 7 Floring 2 Third division: Capton 2 Florowell Health 1. Foot Led 4 East Thurton 2. Wars 2 Camballey 4 Premia Cup: Third round: Oxford Cay 2 Weaktathe 4. ROOTBALL LEAGUE: YOUTH ALL-ANCE: Middled Conference: Marsheld 3. Noti. County 1: Port Wate 2 Street, 1 West Borg 2 Notifiers (Conference: Marsheld 3. Noti. County 1: Port Wate 2 Street, 1 West Borg 2 Notifiers (Conference: Marsheld 3. Noti. County 1: Port Wate 2 Street, 1 West Borg 2 Notifiers (Conference: Marsheld 3. Notifiers (Conference: Port 4 Germany 2 Florid West Conference: Destroy on 0 Florid Conference: Bargor 1 Acts 0
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OTHER SPORT

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NEW YORK: Tournswent of Championes Charter-finals: A Barde (Egyof) bi A Gouph (Wales) 15-9, 15-10, 15-4, P John-son (Eng) by D Harms (Eng) 12-15, 15-12, 15-8, 9-15, 15-6, 15-3, P Nicol (Scor) bt S Parks (Eng) 15-13, 17-18, 15-12. SRA MATIONAL LEAGUE: Group & Hai-lamshire 3 Manchester Nordson 2 (Hei-lamshire 3 Manchester Nordson 2 (Hei-lamshire 18-12, 15-12, 15-12). echans lost to D Lloyd-Visitor 3-9, 2-1 Devon and Booker & UWIC Careint on and Easer names (inst. If Soff by

TABLE TENNIS

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ESPITENS: Trable chance: 23pts C334 D7 22 C6 25, 27 CT 00, Four draws: C14 50 Five aways: C26 10 Eight Norther Class Personal States Control Control

#### IN BRIEF Yorkshire showdown in prospect

BOXING: Naseem Hamed

is ready to put his world title

at stake against another

Yorkshire-based boxer, Paul Ingle, of Scarborough. The World Boxing Organisation featherweight showdown has been pencilled in for Manchester's MEN Arena on April 10. ingle rejected a bout with Hamed earlier this month but said an improved offer of more than £300,000 was "too good to refuse". His promoter, Frank Maloney. confirmed yesterday that a deal was all but concluded. MOTOR RACING: The scramble for seats is still not over in Formula One with just six weeks to go before the first grand prix of the season. Mika Salo emerged vesterday as the biggest potential loser, with Arrows considering ditching the Finn for two drivers who can pay their own way. Toranosuke Takagi and Pedro de la Rosa could both bring substantial sponsorship to the team, which earlier this month was saved by a £70 million cash injection by a consortium led by a Nigerian prince. Malik Ado Ibrahim.

■ BOWLS: David Gourlay, who lost to Alex Marshall in the final of the world indoor singles championship last week, has replaced Hugh Duff at the top of the World Bowls Tour ranking list. while Marshall gains a place in the top 16 for the first time. Duff drops to fourth place, behind John Price and Andy Thomson, Tony Allcock, Richard Corsie and Ian Schuback have slipped out of the leading group.

lest riv

340 m

slow, stultifying otches and negative tactics, However, as Raj Singh, the president of the

Board of Cricket Control for

India, said yesterday, the

growth of limited-overs cricket

since the last meeting in

1989-90, has nurtured an in-

stinct to attack. With Azharud-

din suggesting that the pitch will turn sharply, there is rea-son to feel optimistic about a

The form of both countrie

is poor. Pakistan, bestrurched

by allegations of match-fixing

and riddled with internal divi-

sions, have lost unsurprisingly

to Australia and embarrass-ingly to Zimbabwe on home soil. India returned recently

from defeat against New Zea-

land. Yet Pakistan are a better.

touring team and India have

not lost a home series since

think that this series, the first

between the countries in India

Furthermore, it is easy to

### Test rivals stay calm on eve of hostilities

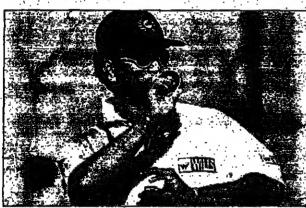
Richard Hobson in Madras hopes

that India and Pakistan can combine to produce a positive series

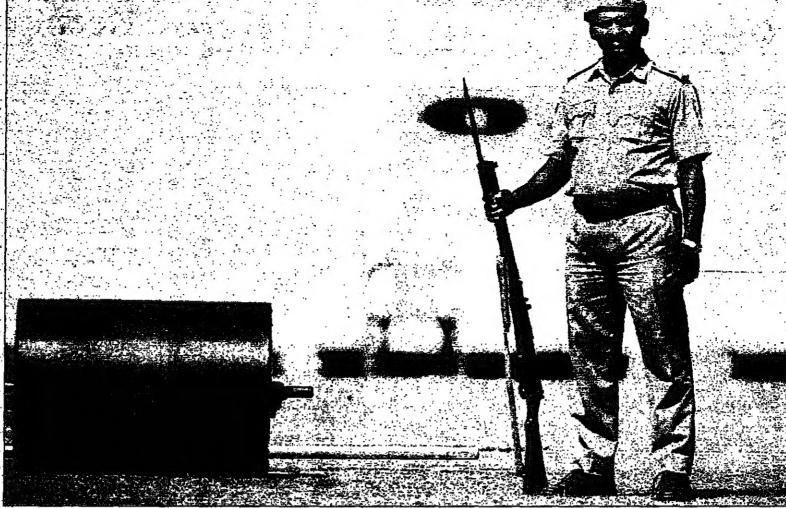
unil Gavaskar once suggested that every Indian possessed a vocabulary of at least four words: "You must beat Pakistan." The anecdote will strike a chord with Wasim Akram. On the flight from Lahore to Delhi last week, a stewardess whispered to the-Pakistan captain: "Win it for

The difference between victory and deleat is the contrast between deification and dissociation. In the past, the fear of: failure has generated some of the dullest cricket in the history of the game. If Wasim and Mohammad Azharuddin, the India captain, are prepared to compromise that fear in pursuit of glory, the three-Test series that begins at the Chidambaram Stadium today will be memorable for more than his-

A record of 15 draws in the past 16 meetings tells a story of



Tendulkar takes part in India's practice session yesterday.



وحدر من رالإمل

The pitch at Chidambaram Stadium in Madras is under armed guard yesterday as preparations continue for the first Test match against Pakistan

for 12 years, could not have arrived at a better time for Pakistan. The contempt held by certain players towards each other pales alongside the inherent determination to crush India

Tight security, which includes snipers overlooking their base at the Taj Coromandel Hotel, has contributed towards fostering unity. Yesterday, in a noble public relations exercise, players visited a hospital for sick children.

The security was unsettling at the beginning but the guards have been flexible," Wasim said. "We spent two weeks in a training camp in Karachi after playing Zimba-bwe and the fact that this is such an important series has glued the players together. My job is to make sure they take pride in themselves and fight to their best for the people back home. People think the Ashes series is the most important, but this is something different again. If you win you are right up there. If you lose, the people do not want to know you."

Wasim is beginning a

fourth stint as captain and Cammie Smith, the former West Indies batsman who is the match referee for the series, remarked that the experience of Wasim and Azharuddin will help to retain a degree

of relative calm a highly charged atmos-The view of

Azharuddin. that Wasim holds the key to Pakistan's chances, is shared by Sachin Tendulkar, now unquestionably the finest batsman in the world. He has drafted in left-arm fast bowlers from local clubs and instructed them to bowl short in the nets to simulate Wasim's threat. Last year, Tendulkar employed leg spinners bowl-

ing into the rough outside leg stump to replicate Shane Warne and proceeded to dominate against Australia.

His innings of 155 not out on a turning pitch here last March was judged by those among the best of his 17 Test centuries. Indeed, the middle

This is such an important series might lead to a it has glued the players together? spin of Harbha-jan Singh, 19. whose action was modified by

Azharuddin, Ganguly and himself, has been the most prolific in the world over the past two years. Any vulnerability lies at the top of the order. where Laxman is likely to be partnered by Sandagoppan Ramesh, who could make his debut on his home ground. While Pakistan, too, have an

all parts, as hard and as often

as you can. If it doesn't come

hold you to account."

to bring it off.

no matter. Nobody will

That would be true. If Eng-

land are to win the World Cup, then Hick and Gough

are the men who can do most

One man is cocksure, full of

swagger and in the form of his

life. The other shows a less cer-

tain face to the world, having

seen how cruelly it can deceive

the trusting. But he's chang-ing. The evidence is there for

changes in the delivery stride to remove the possible appearance of throwing.

20,000 of the 50,000 tickets new ball, they enjoy a superiority in bowling. The risk for India is that Sagiain Mushtaq had been sold by yesterday evening. Organisers believe and Mushtaq Ahmed, if he rethat the slow process of gain-ing admission — the consecovers from a back problem, will be as likely to exploit conquence of searching everybody ditions as their own spinners. at the gates - has proved pro-Kumble does not turn the ball as sharply as Mushtaq, while Sunil Joshi, the slow left-arm

Fred Titmus after concerns ex-

pressed by the International

Cricket Council last year. Al-

though Singh has never been

no-balled for throwing, Tit-

mus, the former England spin

bowler, recommended minor

Wasim said diplomatically: bowler, is seen as better-suited "Let the best team win." It is to the one-day the closest that anyone will come to impartiality in the tense five days ahead. recall for the off

NDIA (from): M Azhanuddin (captan), VVS Laxman, S Ramash, R Drawd, S R Ten-dukar, S C Ganguéy, N R Monga, J Smath, B K V Prasad, A Kumbla, H H Singh, S B Joshi, L Shukla, H H Kantikar

Asked to predict the result,

PAKISTAN (from): Wasım Akram (captairi), Saeed Anwar, Mohammad Naved, Ijaz Ahmed, Yousul Youhanu, Salim Malik, In-zamam-si-Hog, Mon Khan, Saglan Mush-

LINKS

TELEVISIONE First Ondigital (channel 33), 4.30am

### Cullinan dismissed by hand of fate

By Our Sports Staff

DARYLL Cullinan, the South African opening batsman, became only the second player in one-day international cricket to be given out "handled the ball" during the third match of the one-day series against West Indies in Durban yester-

The home team made 274 for nine in 50 overs after winning the toss at Kingsmead, with half-centuries from Lance Klusener and Hansie Cronje,

the captain. Cullinan had made 46 before playing a ball from the left-arm slow bowler, Keith Arthurton, hard into the ground. It bounced straight up and, as it came down, Cullman took his right hand off the bat and caught it.

Although it did not seem likely that the ball would pose any danger to the stumps, Brian Lara, the West Indies captain, appealed and Cullinan was given out by Dave Orchard, the umpire from South Africa.

Orchard brought into effect Law 33, which states that a batsman shall be given out on appeal "if he wilfully touches the bail while in play with the hand not holding the bat, unless he does so with the consent of the opposite side".

It is one of cricket's most unusual dismissals and the only previous batsman to fall in the same way in a limited-overs international match Mohinder Amarnath, India, in a match against Aus-

tralia in the 1985-86 season. On a hard pitch, South Africa batted solidly as the West Indies bowlers laboured in hot weather.

Klusener, sent in as a pinchhitter at No 3, made 64 off 74 balls while Cronje was in sparkling form, hitting 58 off 42 balls with three fours and three sixes.

Carl Hooper, the West Indies off-spin bowler, took four wickets for 52 but Curtly Ambrose was the most impressive of the bowlers, taking two

Scoreboard, page 48

### England's enigma finds his role

ometimes it just clicks. Graeme Hick has been playing international cricket since the day in May 1991 that he qualified as English, and for much of the last eight years he has been tossed about so mercilessly on a sea of heightened expectation that he despaired of ever

vide

spotting dry land. Six times he has been picked for the Test team. Six times he has been dropped. He has made 105 first-class hundreds, and is not trusted to bat in his familiar position of No 3. Hopes have been raised. dashed, raised once more, and seemed to evaporate in a pool of utter misery when he made a century against the Sri Lankans at the Oval last August and, six days later, was excluded from the tour party for Australia.

Test security for Hick is still a long way off but in one-day cricket he is making himself indispensable. Hick is having a terrific time in the triangular tournament with Australia and Sri Lanka, having made three hundreds in the last four matches after a poor start in Brisbane. Suddenly there is colour in his cheeks again.

Michael Henderson says Graeme Hick

Hicky - and those of us who are not completely bowled over by his Test record reserve our rights — but nobody likes to see a soul in torment, and for much of his time in the side that has been the case. One can sense it in the recognition he gets from crowds, that people want him to fulfil something of that vast potential, to

his company, his cricket sense, and the runs he makes.

Stewart is not right to call him a "world-class player" because world-class players make hundreds against the funest bowlers in the world in difficult Test matches, and Hick

is now indispensable in the one-day side

Say what you like about. South Africa in 1995. What he man, indeed a world-conquering batsman, but if he is going to do that now, he will have to make up a lot of ground very quickly.

He has always been popular with team-mates. Alec Stewart made that plain after Hick's latest hundred had narrowly failed to deliver victory against Australia in Adelaide. The man he and other players knew in the dressing-room, he said, was not the man the public might know. They enjoyed

has, or had, was the ability to become a world-class bats-

It is more likely that he will earn international glory in lim-ited-overs cricket, which means that the World Cup this summer is his oyster. He has the talent, and he will have the

opportunity, batting in the position he favours.

Since England discarded the muddle-headed policy of sending in Ealham at No 3. Hick has shown them how sensible it was to revert to the tried and trusted method of having somebody in that position who can bat his way through the first 15 overs, and

beyond. His first hundred in this competition, against Australia at Sydney, was a really excellent effort. Those he made at Adelaide, each time in a losing has done that only once, in cause, regrettably, were possi-

Hick in scintillating form

bly finer. Shane Warne needed little prompting to describe the one on Australia Day as "superb"

Hick takes a philosophical

"It has come together pretty

in both forms of the game."
The way he carted Muralithdence. This is one-day cricket, not to be confused with the sort that makes real demands

- B Lloyd, the England coach, should get hold of Hick some time in the next month and put it to him straight. "Look here, Hicky. You'll never have a better chance of making a name for yourself. You haven't achieved all that you might have, or all that you want, but forget about that. Go out and smash the ball to

view of it all, partly because he doesn't know how the land lies with regard to a Test place. Balanced against his line at-tacking batting in the second innings at Perth, and the runs he made at Melbourne were those joint failures at Adelaide, the crucial third Test that England surrendered with an abysmal display of

well over the past few days". he said. "I have made a bit more of an effort to play my-self in. In the past I have made good runs in one-day cricket and then not made the Test side, for some reason. At the moment I am feeling confident

aran into the trees beyond the mid-wicket boundary at Adelaide testified to his confion players, but games have

### Ranatunga faces hearing

ARJUNA RANATUNGA, the captain of Sri Lanka, who has been charged with breaching the code of conduct laid down by the International Cricket Council, will be dealt with today at a disciplinary hearing in Perth. Peter van der Merwe, the ICC match referee, adjourned the initial hearing in Adelaide on Tuesday after Ranatunga' s lawyers disputed aspects of the

evidence against him. At the time van der Merwe said: "Certain points were raised by Ranatunga's legal representatives, which I re-ferred back to London for advice." Now that the ICC seems to have clarified the position van der Merwe would appear to be in a position to take appropriate action. The maximum sentence he can impose

is a six-match ban. Ranatunga, who tried to lead his team off the field in Adelaide after the umpire,

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN PERTH

Ross Emerson, cailed Muttiah Muralitharan for throwing, and later adopted an insulting and bullying manner towards Emerson, faces five charges covered by the ICC regulations. Broadly speaking they include being responsible for the behaviour of his players, and respecting the umpires 'decisions.

Emerson, who stayed on in Adelaide to attend the hearing on Tuesday, was in the end not required to give evidence. It became clear later that he had been off work for eight works, apparently suffering from a "stress-related condition", and has since been stood down from the rest of this triangular series by the Australian Cricket Board.

Alec Stewart, the England captain, and Graeme Hick, who was batting when Ranatunga tried to take his team off, will appear as witnesses. Van der Merwe has also summoned several Sri Lanka players to attend, including Muralitharan, the off spin bowler in the eye of the storm.

Sri Lanka won the game by one wicket, when Muralitha-ran hit the winning run in the last over, but it will not be remembered for the often brilliant quality of play. Stewart, who was heard telling Ranatunga that his behaviour had been appalling, called it "the least enjoyable game of cricket I have ever been involved in". The Sri Lanka manage-

ment would make no comment yesterday as they trained at the WACA. Aravinda de Silva, their star batsman and vice-captain, is expected to return to play hisfirst game in the tournament. having recovered from a

#### LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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### Cork talks planned

DERBYSHIRE have withdrawn the deadline they set Dominic Cork, left, for informing them whether he intended to remain as their captain. Trevor Bowning, who was elected chairman of the club yesterday after an acrimonious annual meeting, is intent on preventing an extraordinary general meeting taking place. Cork had been given until noon yesterday to inform the club of his intentions, but refused to put anything in writing. He reiterated that he will not continue unless he is given the authority he feels he is due as captain. Bowring said he had asked Les Elliott, who has withdrawn his resignation from the committee, to hold talks with Cork.

### Flowers bloom as bowlers wilt was eventually undone by Darren Thomas, playing on to a ball of extra bounce, but 21-year-old Viljoen took his

Cosker made a late break-Lamb through the air for Chris Read to complete the

place with a composed 70. For-

tunate perhaps to survive a clear edge to Flintoff that was

Scoreboard, page 48

### LEGAL NOTICES COMPANY NOTICES

WASS AND HARROUNS COMPANY MOTICE IS HERRBY CHVEN that the next ORDINARY MEETING of Propinions of the Company will be held at Warwick House, 25-27 Busingson Palmes head, London SWIW GPF on Palmy 19th Pohrausy 1959 at 220 o'clock in the attarnoun for the general purposes of business and for the election of an auditor in place of one retiring by solution.

LEGAL NOTICES

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doubt yesterday that their mability to make the most of sound batting conditions has left them badly exposed. On a day of sapping heat at the Kwekwe Sports Club, all the bowlers were given a lesson in application by the President's

KWEKWE (second day of four): 2CU President's XI, with five first-innings wickets in hand lead England A by 115

IF THE message had not sunk

in fully on the opening day. England A were left in no

Andrew Flintoff and Graeme Swann were out to headstrong strokes when well set, Grant and Andy Flower rarely lapsed in concentration, each scoring a century. With Dirk Viljoen's promis-

ing contribution, the home side have secured a lead from which they should dictate terms. Already, England A will have to bat their way out -of trouble in their second innings if they are to avoid their first defeat in a first-class XI. Where Matthew Windows, match for six years. It took a ner's first over. Grant Flower

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN KWEKWE

breathtaking catch by Windows - running back from square leg and lunging, to hold a mistimed pull off Dean Cosker - to dismiss Murray Goodwin. But the Flower brothers, Grant, fortuitously at first, and Andy, never less than solidly, put the conditions into context by taking 125 runs off the next 32 overs.

Grant Flower's cheeky hrace of reverse sweeps for. four : disrupted : Swann's : rhythm as early as the off spin-

called no-ball, it took a direct hit from Jason Lewry at midwicket to see the back of himthrough. deceiving stumping, but Andy Flower remained undefeated.

TENNIS: OLD RIVAL OVERWHELMED IN AUSTRALIAN OPEN AMID BARE MINIMUM OF ETIQUETTE

# Seles vents strong feelings



YOU could watch Monica Seles every day for a month and still be intrigued by this extraordinary woman, with her extraordinary past, whose like will never again walk the

world's courts. Seles positively crushed Steffi Graf in the Australian Open here yesterday. She inflicted on the proud German a defeat so complete that Graf could not remember the like of it. From 4-2 up in the first set. Graf lost 11 of the next 13 games — including eight in a row - as Seles pounded down her metronomic ground-strokes from the strings of her oversized racket. She tri-

umphed 7-5, 6-1 in 73 minutes. This quarter-final was expected from the moment the draw was cast here two weeks ago, Graf against Seles, might against power, grace against force. Graf established an early lead, after which Seles hunt-POINT DV DOINE shot by shot, Seles remorselessly closed down on Graf. She ultimately drew level, reached out a naw and metaphorically severed her prey in half.

"I played OK until 4-3, but then I totally lost my momenturn." Graf, still disorientated by the experience, reflected some 20 minutes after the match. "I couldn't put a bail in the court."

The two have duelled too many times for Graf to be surFROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN MELBOURNE

RESULTS

"For some reason, I didn't go into this tournament with enough confidence." she said. "I don't know why that was." These are strange thoughts from Graf, who played some outstanding tennis, beating both the Williams sisters, in Sydney two weeks ago.

Perhaps Seles, now a leaner individual than when beaten by Martina Hingis at Flushing Meadows in September, is approaching her very best form. Certainly Graf, 29, is not the force of old. No player can expose an opponent's limitations quite like Seles. She may have been responsible for Graf's state of disarray.

A little cameo in the second game suggested that we were poised to witness yet another memorable confrontation between two women who once dominated the game. After a rally, which had Seles scampering furiously after a series of trademark. Graf forehands. the German moved in to finish

the point — but she could not. Twice Seles retrieved balls that looked like winners. On the third she missed narrowly with a passing shot at full stretch, prompting Graf into the faintest hint of a smile at her opponents obduracy. It was a smile of recognition; one that told of countless previous prised by Seles's onslaught.

Gerbattes Camero-maner Y Reference (Russ) for T Martin (US) 5-2, 7-6, 6-2. T Mane (Ger) bit V Specier (US) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. DOUBLES: Quarter-finales E Ferrera (SA) and P fluench (US) bit P Gerbrath (US) and P Haarthuis (Holl) 7-5, 6-2, 6-4; J Bjorkman (Swe) and P Refer (Aus) wo G Kuenten (Br)

DOUBLES: Quarter-final: L. Devenport (US) and N. Zvereva (Bola) bt Y. Basuki (India) and A. Mauresmo (Fri 8-2, 6-3, Semi-final: M. Hings (Switz) and A. Kourrakova (Russ) bt L. Reymond (US) and R. Sucha

MODED DOUBLES ARTER-FINALS: P Albano (Ang) and M logner (US) bit N Kulti (Swe) and M Ore-ne (Holl) 6-7, 7-6, 6-4, D Adams (SA) and de Swend: (SA) bit D McPherson (Aus) I R McQuillan (Aus) 6-4, 6-4. BOYS

GIRLS

seriGLES: Second round: H Colin (G8) bt M Gerards (Holl) 4-8, 7-5, 8-2

That standard would not be maintained as the match progressed. As errant as Graf was, Seles was increasingly unplayable. Her backhand blistered the paint denoting the court's boundaries. Her short, choppy backswing contrasted sharply with Graf's gliding forehand, yet there is a haunting beauty about Seles in full flow. To watch her establish

her destructive rhythm can chill you to the bone.

Another unsetiling sight was the way the two players greeted each other at the contest's conclusion. There was no eye contact, no smile, no acknowledgement; only the bare minimum required by the game's enquette. Their fleeting handshake, followed by Seles's determination to dismantle the notion of their rivalry, told of the sad, sorry, per-

sonal history between them. While tennis fans clamour for their on-court collisions, Seles implied that she would prefer it if they never met again. Wasn't this like old times: Steffi and Monica, here at Flinders Park? "Not for me," came the blunt riposte. "I just went in there and played ball. Is there still something special, though, about playing when I play any top player.

Seles said. It was, of course, a fan of Graf who stabbed Seles in the back during a changeover in Hamburg six years ago. Any meeting between Seles and Graf thus precipitates the retelling of that episode, an episode that Seles strives hard

to forget. Seles is trapped in a vicious what redemption awaits her is to be found out on the courts, which, by necessity, requires the occasional meeting with Graf. Seles, seed-

ed No 6, was back on court in the early hours this morning for her semi-final with Martina Hingis, who accounted for Mary Pierce, seeded No 7, 6-3, 6-4. The champion, Hingis caught Pierce on a day when consistency off the ground proved a problem.

Tommy Haas, of Germany. advanced to his first grandslam semi-final when he got the better of Vince Spadea, of the United States, in straight sets. Remarkably, Spadea, No 44 in the world, was by some distance the highestranked opponent to confront Haas, 20, in his five victories here to date.

Haas nett plays Yevgeny Kafeinikov, of Russia, the sole seed among the four semi-finalists. Kalelnikov, seeded No 10, disposed of Todd Martin, of the United States, in self as the man most likely to land the title here on Sunday.

In the girls' junior tourna-ment, Hannah Collin, of Surrey, posted a spirited 4-6, 7-5, 6-2 victory over Michelle Gerards, of Holland, to reach the third round.

Eurosport, 4.30pm (highlights) SBC 2, 5pm (highlights)

Soldotova, her companiot,

won their individual groups. Szewczenko and Liashenko could manage only fourth and sixth in their respective

groups.
After four years with no fe-

male British representative in

the final of this event, it was

hoped that Stephanie Main

would break the pattern, but

she is suffering from influenza and withdrew yesterday,

Elena Berezhnaya, and

Anton Sikharulidze, the pairs

champions, are also under the

weather with flu symptoms

and withdrew from the pairs

having taken no part.

event last night.

ICE SKATING

TELEVISION CHOICE

### Keeping it in the family

The series on "family life in Britain today" continues to unearth the sort of families most of us never come across. A Lancashire wedding is the subject of the latest film, of Stuart (21) to Sharon (25). They are stepbrother and stepsister and have grown up together for most of their lives. The brother-sister relationship turned into something more three years ago and they have a son. She also has two boys from previous relationships. It sounds complicated, not to say scary, but they insist they are in love and are prepared to work even harder than usual to make it work. The signs are not all favourable. It is only 10.30 on Stuart's stag night and Sharon is ringing the pub to demand he comes home. When he finally knocks on the front door, at 11.45pm, she refuses to let him in. The series on "family life in Britain today" contin-

Meet the Ancestors : BBC2, 9.00pm

On a windswept barley field near Kirkwall in Orkney a farmer's tractor dislodges the roof slab of Oriney a termer's tracor distodges the root stad of an underground tomb whose contents have not been touched for 5,000 years. For Julian Richards, the archaeologist who hosts this quietly gripping series, Orkney is a long way from his home in Dorset but he knows a good find when hears about one. There follows the usual painstaking detective work, as experts from academe and Strathchyde. Police poke among bones and fragments of skulls and piece together as coherent a story about their owners as modern science can give us. Even though the remains are too decayed for the DNA to have survived, the evidence points to a woman of about 30 and two children. An unusual bump on the back of the woman's head takes the investigation far beyond Orkney.

Horizon: From Here to Infinity BBC2, 9.30pm

The two biggest questions about our Universe are how it started and how it will end. This film consid-ers the second, setting out the latest scientific thinking on whether the universe will expand to infinity, contract in a cosmic crunch or coast indefinitely on the verge of collapse. The experts claim:

A local artist demonstrates his skills in Mad about Monet (BBCl, 10.20pm)

they have the answer, based on a study of super-novae. Two teams of competing astronomers are convinced they have the means of tracking these convinced they have the means of tracking these dying stars and by doing so can solve the mystery of the cosmos. Saul Perimuiter, a young Californian physicist, made the early running but rival observers who initially sormed his method have, ironically, since adopted it. The work of both teams has incidentally revealed a mysterious force which has revised traditional ideas about the nature of the Universe. nature of the Universe.

BBC1, 10.20pm

The Hardest Game

Radio 5 Live, 7.30pm ...

RADIO CHOICE

Some may feel that this film tells them too little about Moner's art and too much about the hair-dresser who runs a Monet salon in Burton upon Trent or the about prices which the paintings now fetch at auction. A Sotheby's man admits that he campot look at Moner's replact trees without see. now fetch at auction. A Sotheby's man admits that he cannot look at Monet's popular trees without seeing them as a dollar sign. The excuse for presenting Monet as a phenomenon is that he is one, not just an artist but a box office attraction, as the Royal Academy is discovering. Richard Cork of The Times is left to wonder if the world has gone Monet and the among the innegatial fringenies the et-mad. But among the tangential fripperies the programme offers a useful buffer's trip through the life and career, with insights into the creation of the wonderful Giverny garden. Peter Waymark

Barry Tooks Comedy Classics: The Goon Show

I do not normally give space to retreads but Barry-Took is choosing some brilliant comedy for this series, though I doubt it will produce anything better than this episode of The Goon Show, called The Siege of Fort Night, from 1958. The Goons have long been the shortest answer to those who think her allowating comedy was invested about 20 min. that alternative comedy was invented about 20 min-unes ago: this classic was an alternative to every times ago; mis classic was an anernative to every kind of comedy that had gone before. Tonight's epi-sode has an army setting, offering ex-trooper turned scriptwriter Spike Milligan several opportu-nities for revenge. The story, strangely absent from most military histories, concerns a waterproof gas stove which has to be smuggled into Fort Night us-ing electrified Mongolian bagpipes.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30em Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00pm Kevin Greening 2.00 Mark Radcille 4.00 Chris Moyler 5.45 Newbest 6.00 Chie Waren 6.00 The Evening Session 19.00 Trade Update 10.10 John Peel 12.00em, Andy Kershaw 2.00 Emma B 4.00

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00em Sereh Kermedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen 9.30 Ker-Bruce 12.00pm Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Weiter 7.00 David Allen 8.00 Paul Jones 9.00 Sany Took's Cornedy Clessics: The Goon Show Lone in series. See Choice (8/5) 9.30 Cornedy Showcase: Redeeming Brian. (3/6) 10.00 Mety Talks Jezz (2/5) 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.00mm Ketrins Leskanich 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00em Morring Reports 8.00 Breekfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00pm The Midday News 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Handast Gerna. See Choice 8.00 Intide Edge 9.00 Hoope 9.30 Sportshop 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00em Up Al Night. News from around the world

VIRGIN

6.30em Denny Baker 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 16.00 Mark Forrest 1.00em Jernes Mersit 4.30 Richard Allen

TALK RADIO

6.00mm The Big Boys Breaklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00pm My Favourita Year 1.00 Anna Resburn 3.00 Peter Dealey 5.00 The SportZone 7.00 One to One with Andy Gray 6.00 James Whate 1.00mm Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night

Radio 5 Live, 7.30pm.

What is it about Chris Eubank that provides him with a large army of adoring fans, faced by an army at least as large that would not care if Eubank never stepped in another ring? The superclicus manner may be a contributing factor, together with the (seemingly) abourd fashion posturing. But this series by Harry Carpenier, the recently retired BBC boxing correspondent, has been good at genting beyond such superficial matters and tonight's programme elicits some interesting and even modest thoughts, not least about Eubank's regrets relating to some fight modents. Eubank is frank about his carefully cultivated image, but admits to being upset when the media protrays a different image of him.

Peter Barnard

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100

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37:50

Charles .... 275

Carry. 344 : tal

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BBC WORLD SERVICE

S.00mm The World Today 7.00 World News-7:15 Outlook 7.55 My: Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Firm, Our Own Correspondent 8.20 Off the Shelt-Sike Marrier 8.35 The World 9.00 World News 9.05 Network 9.20 Andy Kenthaw's World of Music 9.50 Sports Round-Up 16.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Britain Today 10.46 Performence 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Assignment 12.00pm World News 12.05 Dutlook 12.45 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newschour 2.00 World News 2.05 The Works 2.30 Mardiden Books 3.00 World News 3.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Medical Books 3.00 World News 3.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Insight 4.30 The Good Felstionship Guide 4.48 The Lab 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 Morld Resiness, Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up 6.00 World News 7.05 Fits Worlds 7.30 From Our Assignment 7.00 World News 7.05 Fits Worlds 7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.45 Off the Shelt-Sikes Menner 8.00 Brigan Today 9.30 Mendien Books 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 19.30 The Good Relationship Guide 10.45 The Leb 11.00 World News 11.05 Outlook 11.45 Insight. 12.00cm The World Today 12.30 The Worlds 12.55 My Century 1.00 The World Today 12.30 Teath 3.00 The World Today 2.30 Focus on Faith 3.00 The World Today 2.30 Focus on Faith 3.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Business Report 3.45

CLASSIC FM

8.00 was Nick Balley's Easier Breekless 8.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 per Lunchtime Requests. Jene Jones presents Izvourite music 2.00 Cornorto. Beethoven: Plano concerto No 5 in E liat mejor 3.00 Jamie Crick. Continuous Classics and Alternoon Romance 6.30 Newenight. The lafest headlines and eport apdates 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning Introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Tavener: Termal Memory. Part Seven Magnificat-Antiphonen. Tavener: The last sleep of the virgin. Goracid: Meserer: Totus Trus. Tavener: Song to Althere 11.00 Marry at Night. A chance to wind down with the sound of emberst music 2.00em Concerto. Bestroven: Pismo concerto. No 5 in E fist major (r) 3.00 Mark. Griffiths. The Early Breeddast Show

6.00am On Air With Petroc Trelawny, Music includes
Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 1 in F);
Gershwin (Rhepacoly in Blue)
9.00 Masturworks With Petro Hobdsy, Schubert
(Pisno Soneta in A fist, D557); Veughan Williams
(Five Varients of "Dives and Lazarus"); Byrd
(Rejoice unto the Lord; Beethoven (Cello Sonata
in A, Op 69); Poulenc (Sinfonletta)
10.30 Artist of the Week Midori talks to Joan Belevwell
11.00 Sound Stories The Restoration
12.00pm Composer of the Week Taverser
1.00 The Radio 3 Lazachtime Concert Haydin string
quartets recorded at the Royal Northern College of
Music, Haydin (String Quartets in B flat; Op 1 No
1 in D minor); (Op 103; in F, Op 77 No 2)
2.00 The BBC Orchestrae SBC Philisemonic under
Vassity Sineisky and Donald Hunt Elgar (Fantasia
and Fogue in C minor); Brahms (Hungarian Dence
No 1 in G minor); (Mozart: Clarinet Concerto in A,
KS22); Brahms (Symphony No 4 in E minor)
4.00 Ensemble Beethoven (Trio in B flat, Op 11)
4.45 Music Machine The Shaker people
5.00 in Ture Strassia in C minor,
7.30 Performance on 3 BBC Symphony Orchestra
under Richard Hickor, British (Ballad of Heroes);

The light time with the

Vaughan Williams (Symphony No.3); Howelfs (Hymnus peradis)

9.35 Poetscript Many Warnock introduces excerpts from John Suart Mil's essays On Liberty and The Subjection of Women:

10.00 Musle Restored Beethoven ( Sonata in F minor, Op 2 No 1); Corell's first violat sonata; Mortevard's first madrigal

10.45 Night Waves Composers, anstrocrets, bankers and writers were among the subjects painted by larges, the teaching portretist of his age

11.30 Jezz Notes Alyn Shigton is joined by Campbell Bumap to review the latest CDs

12.00am Composer of the Weets Purcell With Robert King, 4: 1899-1892", Praise the Lord, O Jerussiem; Z46; Welcome, Glorious Morn, Z338; The Gordian Knot United, Z597; The Fairy Queen (Act 4) (f)

1.00 Through the Night With Donald Macleod, Reger (Four Symphonic Poems after Arnold Boddin); Matter (Symphony No 4); Schubert (Arpeggione Sonata in A minor, D821), 3.00-5.00 Schools (3.00 Music Worlshop, 3.20 Let's Movel 3.40 Words Alivel 3.35 Frist Steps in Drama, 4.10 Listen and Write, 4.30 Alchabet Time, 4.40 Check it Out), 5.10 Brahms (Trio in A minor, Op 114),

# 5.30em World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Farming Today With Arna Hil 6.00 Today With John Humphrys James Naughtie, 8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Partisance 9.00 in Our Time with Melvyn Brage 9.30 Transplantations Anches Demetrou take to Arna Pavord (3/5) (f) 9.45 (FM) Sertal: The Victorian Internet David Rictou reads Tom Standage's history of the electric telegraph (4/5) (f) 9.45 (LW) Delly Service Director of music Alen Wilson 10.00 Woman's Hour Jenni Murray presents. Drams: Inner Voices

8.30 Yes, Minister Cornedy (r)
7.00 The Archers George gets an uncarny sense of what's going to happen next.
7.15 Front How Arts programme, presented by

7.15 Front Row Arts programme, presented by Francine Stock
7.45 inner Voices by Ridde Beadle Blair (r)
8.00 Case History The most hated man in Britain charing World War One, the Kaiser also suffered from a terrible disability. Poy Porter assesses what part ill-health played in the German leader's career. The Kaiser (r)
8.30 The Week in Westmiraster Steve Richards of the New Statesman looks behind the scenes at Westminster
9.00 Testbede Vanessa Collingricige explores how technology will affect the future
9.30 In Our Time with Melvyn Bragg Broadcast partier (r)

10.00 The World Tonight With Robin Lusting
10.45 Book at Beddime: The Sound of Trumpets & John Moramer. Terry Fiston appears on a local radio chat show — but his morner of fame

racio chat show — but his moment of fame doesn't quite get the reaction he'd hoped for 11.00 Late Night on 4: World of Pub Bright spark Dodgy Prit comes up with another plan for the pub. Starting Prit Comwell, Allstait McGowan and John Thomson. Last in series (4/4)

11.30 (FM) Experimental Feature. Laughing Close Enough for Jazz John Forchern investigates the Ink between comedy and jazz

11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament Update from Westminster

12.00m News
12.30 The Late Book: Round ireland with a Fridge

3.45 (CW) Delty Service Director of music Alen Wilson
10.00 Woman's Hour Jenni Murray presents. Drama:
Inner Voices
11.00 Prom Our Own Correspondent
11.30 Old Dog and the Partridge Jack pretends he
has a fiances when his old friend Relight comes to
visit. With Michael Wilsoms (5/6)
12.00 ptn (FM) News 12.00 (LW) News Headthnes;
Stilpping Forecast 12.04 You and Yours
1.00 The World at One With Nick Clarke
1.30 The World at One With Nick Clarke
1.30 Hidden Treasures Lars Tharp presents the
artiques quiz from Cestle Howard
2.00 The Archers (f)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Rightworkers by Louise
Dougris; Two men meet a mysterious stranger
while checking for bombs in the tunnels under
Londo. With Harry Myers and Dartiel O'Gredy
3.00 Cell You and Yours (0670) (10 0444
3.30 The Valle Grand summer opening. (8/8) (f)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle Arna Massey narrates the
history of Britain, inspired by the willings of
Wiraton Churchill, Penence, Rebellion and Ireland
4.00 Lew in Action With Natori Berlins
4.00 The Mederial World The role of scientists in
delecing at forgeness
5.00 PM With Edde Mair and Nigel Whench
6.00 Six O'Clock News Tony Hawkis recalls his experiences hisch-hiking around instand with a fridge (4/5)

12.48 Shipping Forecast

1.00 As World Service



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Coder Trees.



### Medal hopefuls have to make early impact

WHEN is a qualifying event not a qualifying event? When it is part of a figure-skating championship and counts towards the final result. That is the joke doing the rounds here at the European figure skating championships, but

not everyone is laughing. Yesterday, 33 women divided into two groups and skated their free programmes in what were called "qualifying free skating". With 15 from each group progressing to the short programme tomorrow, just three skaters were eliminated. For the 30 remaining, the per-formance yesterday will count for 20 per cent of the final score — and some have been left with a lot to do if they are

to get a medal. Leading contenders such as Tanja Szewczenko, of Germa-ny, and Elena Liashenko, of Ukraine, could not afford to go through the motions because. from this season, solo skaters International Skating Union (ISU) championships are required to turn in three performances that contribute

FROM ANGELA COURT they skate the free pro-

gramme, then the short, worth 30 per cent, and then do the free again - when it is worth the remaining 50 per cent. Sally-Arme Stapleford, chair-woman of the ISU's figure skating technical comm

said: "Previously skaters would aim to qualify without putting much effort into the performance, but now this section counts, everyone has good reason to do their best. It raises the level of the competition." sia, the champion, and Julia

Maria Butryskaya, of Rus-

WORD-WATCHING

Auswers from page 45 (b) The eighth month of the Jewish ecclesiastical year and the second month of the civil year, corresponding to parts of October and November. Also formerly called Bul. "The perfect year has 355 days, and is when the months of Hesvan and Kislev have

each 30 days." MORILLO

(b) The muscle at the back of the bull's neck, one of the targets for the lances of the buillighters. In Spanish the word means the fleshy part of the neck of an animal. The picadors must place a pica (lance) into the rear part of the toro's long homp of neck muscie, known as the morillo or cerviguillo."

(b) A thigh, as in noix de veau. In French, literally a nut. "The noix of veal is the topside (rump), the fleshy upper part of the leg. cut lengthwise."

HAHAM (b) One learned in Jewish law. A wise man or savant. Specifically. 2 Jewish rabbi among Sephantic Jews, Hebrew for wise, a wise man. Leo Rosten, The Joys of Yiddish, 1968: "A proud young haham told his grandmother that he was going to become a doctor of chilosophy."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE Soldatova: group winner 1, RhS+! Kxh5: 2. Qh7 checkmate.

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-938, RADIO 2. FM 8820-902, RADIO 3. FM 902-924, RADIO 4. FM 924-94.6; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 693, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.555m). CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102, VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio fistings compiled by fan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jame Growner and

# Seizing every opportunity to enjoy herself

anthropy: and some have thropy thrust upon them. Much of the joy of Inside Story (BBCI), about a pair of bailiffs in Leeds, was trying to guess into which of these three categories Corinne Ladriscina fell: Misanthropy seems to be a common feature of occupations such as traffic wardens, bailiffs, the people who work in customer telations departments of utility companies. But it's always intriguing to try to work out whether it's dealing with angry members of the public that eventually turns traffic wardens and bailiffs into people always braced for a fight, or whether, like Robert Duvall in Apocalypse Now, they have always loved the smell of napalm first thing in the morning, and so chose to go into these particular professions because they provide

be actually illegal. If Corinne learnt many impor-

tant things at her mother's knee.

"silence is golden: was not one of
them. "I must admit that when we
are actually bailiffing." she admitted superfluously. "I'm doing the
talking." We were only a few mintalking." We were only a few minintes into Richard Taylor and Ian Stuttard's entertaining film, but already we no more needed to be told this than we would need Al Gore to tell us that he has less charisma than dandruff. Corinne never stops talking. Mark Stebbings, the fellow-bailiff with whom she tours Leeds collecting cash or carsor dining tables to settle unpaid council tax hills, is also her partner, and father of their young daughter. He gets in his words when Corinne breathes in like the triangle player in an orchestra pa-tiently waiting for his moment "A lot of people take an instant dislike to me." Corinne confessed.

Maybe, Corinne, it's because you are as cheery as a crocodile with toothache. "I don't go into premises and say. 'Good morning'," she boasts, because it's not going to be a good morning."

remainly not if Corinne has anything to do with it. It's not long before her guard slips and she settles the question that's been nagging us: "It's not a very nice thing to say that I enjoy being a bailiff, but unfortunately I do. I meet a lot of arrogant people. who think they're above the law and they think that nobody can do anything to them, probably because they re in a good financial po-sition and they il pay when they re ready. And the enjoyment there is that we get them to pay or we remove the goods, in other words we



Joseph

Clampers talking about motorists. Still, I'd pay to hear Corrine's view of Elizabeth Emanuel, the woman who - with her former husband - designed the then Diana Spencer's wedding dress. Hav-ing long since fallen on hard times, Emanuel sought out a backer. The backer she found was Shami Ahmed, the owner of the Joe knock them down a peg or two." It Bloggs jeans company. What was could have been Ray from The so gripping about Nick Mirsky's Carpet (BBC2) about their shotgun vorce was that it turned into a corporate homage to Blind Date.

عكذامن الإمل

Having outlined the basic gulf. in their approaches to business (Liz expected Shami to fund air fares and fancy hotels so that she could josh with royals and celebrities, which Shami said would make financial sense if it were a proven way of attracting custom -which it clearly wasn't, or else why had her company foundered?), Mirsky showed us how it all unravelled the minute Liz flew to New York for what Shami had deemed an unnecessary trip. Shami was on the next plane, seeking an explanation. For Liz, who was already "that stressed our" by Shami's decision to relocate her cutting rooms to - yikes! - Wembley, it was the final straw. Mirsky then compiled a duel of film clips, Blind Datestyle, with Liz and Shami each givphone call which Shami, from another room in the same hotel, made to Emanuel.

e just got so hostile with me," "She was shouting at me,""He was so insulting. He trashed me as a designer. You're talking about a man who thinks the biggest thing ever is to design diamond-encrusted jeans and he thinks that's classy! How could be possibly understand the stuff I was doing?" I didn't under-stand how to lose money, no. That's true," "The man is a dicustor." "You must remember not to go on an ego trip." "He's got a thing about being in control." "I'd really never met anybody that couldn't see reason like that." Ooh, and then what happened, chuck? asked the spirit of Cilia.

"She put the phone down." "He put the phone down on me." "No. no. She put the phone down."

It only lacked Cilla telling us: "Well, folks, they didn't hit it off at all, did they! And it looked so promising, what with Liz's loovly, loovly gowns and Shami's gorgeous busi-ness brain. Never mind, chucks, I'm sure you'll both find the right partner soon." If only Newsnight had used this technique when Pe-ter Mandeslon and Charlie Whelan were feuding about who played what part in their respective downfalls.

Mersey Blues (BBC2) has at last reached that scene we kept seeing in the trailers for the series, where a man is arrested by police for mur-der and he replies: "Meerdagh?" It was like that moment in a concertwhen the band finally plays the tune everybody's been waiting for. With a murder investigation hang-ing in mid-air, a real-life prime suspect in the cells, and a bent copper still to be exposed, this series has become more gripping than Burt Reynolds's toupée glue.

#### 6.00am Business Breakfast (96916) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (81751) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8241645) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (5614515).

the greatest scope for upsetting their fellow human beings without

10.55 News; Regional News; Weather (1) 11.00 Real Rooms (7590886) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (7560645) 11.55 News; Regional News (T) (1786041) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (36312)

12.55 The Weather Show (1) (55834138) 1.00 One O'Clock News; Weather (1)

12.30 Wipeout (3042886) . . .

1.30 Regional News; Weather (86274645) 1.40 Neighbours (T) (85954461) 2.05 tronside (r) (7247935) 2.55 Body Spies (7792206)

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (2928496) 3.45 The All New Popeye Show-19649393) 3.55 Pocket Dragot Adventures (9645577) 4.05 Rugrats (6502664) 4.20 Home Farm Twits (6523167) 4,35 Short Change (1206577) 5.00 Newsround (5043206) 5.10 Grange Hill (6176461)

5.33 Rewind (T) (856867) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (268312) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (913) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (683) 7.00 Watchdog (T) (9480)



Melanie (Tamzin Outhwaite) finds romance in the square (7.30pm)

7.30 EastEnders: Passion mounts between Michael and Lisa (T) (867) ... 8.00 Vets in Practice\_Alison diagnoses an unusual bone disorder, while heartbroken

8.30 Fat Free Tem and Sean decide to put their diets on hold for the duration of the holiday, while Tracey embarks on a trenzy of activity to speed up her weight loss (4/6) (T) (4935)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (1) (2799) 9.30 Birds of a Feather Sharon and Tracey discover easy money in the glamorous world of the casino, but find that there are atways strings - attached. Comedy, starting Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson (r) (T) (960428)

10.20 CHOICE Med About Monet The life and times of the painter Claude Monet (T) (495549) 11.10 Question Time (705596)

12.15am European Figure Skating Championships Action from Prague 1.00 Betrayal of Silence (1989) Meg Foster

stars as an assistant district attorney delending a girl who has made serious allegations against a renowned foster home. Directed by Jeffrey Woolnough (1)

2.30 Weather (4241165) 2.35 BBC News 24 (24286829) 7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Open a Door (2100413) 7.05 Telesubbie

Open a Door (2100413) 7.05 Teletubbies (2509480) 7.30 Secret Squirrel and Co. (3483312) 7.55. Blue Peter (2802954) 8.20 Taz-Maria (9432732) 8.40 Polica Dot. Shoris (8711515) 8.50 Fiddley, Foodle Bird (8717799) 9.00 Daylime On Two: Job Bank (7637770) 9.10 Betlef File (6053935) 9.30 Watch (8828867) 9.45 Come Outside (8814022) 10.00 Children's BBC; Teletubbies (56577) 10.30 Daylime On Two: Storytime (5480206) 10.45 The Experimenter (3789041) 11.05 Space Ark (9251751) 11.15 Zig Zag (1030225) 11.35 11.15 Zig Zag (1030225) 11.35 Lifeschool (5277935) 12.90pm Job Bank

12,30 Working Lunch (69138) 1.00 Children's BBC: Fiddley Foodle Bird . (73245190)

1.10 The Great Picture Chase (r) (82141954) 1.40 The Arts and Crafts Show (65975954) 2.10 Sporting Greats (22798428) 2.40 News (1) (8524393) 2.45 Westminister (T) (9375442)

3.25 News (T) (2560954) 3.30 A Place for Annie (1993) A dedicated doctor cares for an HIV-positive baby, but faces emotional upheaval when the child's natural mother returns to claim her. Moving drama, with Sissy Spacek. Directed by John Gray (1) (86190)

5.00 Tennis: Australian Open Highlights of the women's semi-finals (6393) 6.00 The Outer Limits (r) (1) (164374)

6.45 European Figure Championships (575751) 7.30 First Sight (T) (409) 8.00 The Travel Show (1) (6770)



The talkshow host and newspaper

B.30 Jeremy Clarkson's Extreme Machines The Top Gear presenter checks out the American F15 plane and goes drag-racing on snowmobiles (r) (T)

9,00 [CENTE] bleet the Ancestors A learn of police officers and archaeologists unlock secrets of the past as they investigate the contents of a recently discovered Stone Age burial chamber in Orloney (1) (3041)

9.30 CHOICE Hortzon A look at the variety of theories about the end of the Universe, highlighting research which has led to a bizarre discovery — a previously unknown form of energy the

could challenge the fundamental laws of physics (T) (951770) 10.20 Meetings with Remarkable Trees (4/8) (f) (T) (881157) 10.28 Video Nation Shorts (T) (300799)

10.30 Newsnight (1) (977138) 11.15 Late Review (344618) 11.55 Skiing Forecast (215138) 12.00am Despatch Box (15165) 12.30 BBC Learning Zone

HTV WEST 5.30am ITN Morning News (32206) 6.00 GMTV (6366770) 9.25 Trisha (1) (3130041)

10.30 This Morning (T) (24707751) 12.15pm HTV News and Weather (T) (9931119) 12.30 FTN Lunchtime News; Westher (T)

1.00 Shortland Street Lulu has her first dete with James (86206) 1.30 Home and Away Justine breaks Tom's

heart (T) (55935) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show Cutrageous anything-goes American talk show (T) (2471225)

2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (1) (620732) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (1) (2568596) 3.20 HTV News (1) (2565409) 3.25 CITY: Mopetop's Shop (2548732) 3.35

The Adventures of Dawdle (8097954)
3.45 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries
(8077190) 4.00 Lavender Castle
(8598461) 4.15 Hey Amold! (6037044)
4.40 The Worst Witch (7681867) 5.10 A Country Practice Robert returns with his new bride (3850698)

5.36 HTV Crimestoppers (840206) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News; Weather (1) (873393) 6.00 Home and Away Justine breaks Tom's

heart (r) (T) (108732) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (470596) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (T) (731288) 6:30 The West Tonight (1) (751)

7.60 Emmerdale Ned has a change of fortune (T) (1848) 7.30 WEST: We Can Work it Out Judy Finnigan and the team investigate more consumer complaints (935)

7.30 WALES: Forgotten Treasures (935) 8.00 The Bill Garlield jumps at the chance of taking part in an operation which will mean spending a weekend at the races (1) (5515)



Berry (Steve Toussaint) goes undercover (9pm)

9.00 The Knock An Itlegal immigrant found. hiding in the luggage compartment of a coach exposes an Algerian heroin smuggling ring (4/6) (1) (5751) 10.00 News at Ten (T) (39409)

10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (802415) 10.40 Thursday Night Live (7866472) 12.10am WEST: Tales from the Darkside 12.10 WALES: We Can Work It Out

(5489165) 12.40 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (7255900) 1,25 T in the Park (1228097) 2.20 Box Office America (5454368) 2.50 Cybernet (7321252)

3.20 Murder, She Wrote (4159707) 4.10 Potty About Pets (95359962) 4.35 Coach (34039894) 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (1275417)

CENTRAL As HTV West except: 12.20-12.30pm Central News (6557867)

1.00 Echo Point (86206) 1.30 Jerry Springer (9579022) 2:15-2:45 Home and Away (621461) 3.20-3.25 Central News (2565409) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3850698) 6.25-6.55 Central News (116751)

6,55-7.00 Liteline (24984 10.30-10.40 Central News (802415) 1.30em Pirate TV (62610) 2.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol

(9452146) 2.20 Judge Judy (9456962) 2.45 Pop Down the Pub (7413287) 3.10 Cybernet (71297959) 3.35 Potty About Pets (14796165)

4.05 Central Jobfinder '99 (8427078)

5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (4711233)

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News (1) (9931119) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (6565886) 1.00 Emmerdale (r) (1) (66206) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (1) (85205) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (9579022) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (7) (621461) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News (7) (2565409) 5.08 Birthday People (8162916) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7) (3850698) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (7) (64683) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News (7) (802415) 12.10am-12.40 Short Story Cinema (5400165)

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News (9931119) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (3850698) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (T) (799) 6.30-7.00 Getaways (4/10) (751) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News (T) (802415) 12.10em-12.40 Jenny (5489165) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (T)

Watch (6536374) 12.20-12.30 Anglia Ne (6557867) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (3850698) 5.58 Anglia Weather (853770) 6.00 Anglia News (1) (799) 6.30-7.00 About Anglia (751) - 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (397225) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News (1) (802415)

Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (45501916) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (47564770) 9.00
Ysgolion (1) (41573751) 9.20 Geographical
Eye (41583515) 9.40 English Programme
(80243577) 10.00 Middle English (98849374)
10.20 Fourways Farm (71344157) 10.30 Scientific Eye (17635409) 10.50 What the Papers Said (93518577) 11.00 The Number Crew (53246022) 11.10 Channel Hopping Crew (53246022) 11.10 Channel Hopping (3516916) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (24420225) 12.00pm Bewitched (T) (16145480) 12.30 Sesame Street (T) (38147954) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (47574157) 1.30 Travelog Treks (T) (69425157) 1.45 FILM: Wee Willie Winkie (T) (34836596) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (56827461) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (56846596) 4.30 Rickl Lake (T) (56835480) 5.00 Planed Plant (35143570) 5.30 Countdown (T) (56826732) 5.00 Neweddion 6

5,00 Planted Plant (35143570) 5.30 Countdown (T) (56826732) 5.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (69705022) 6.10 Heno (T) (9841419) 7.00 Pebol y Cerm (T) (14535026) 7.30 Newyddion (T) (56843409) 8.00 Penblwydd Hapus (T) (91787914) 8.30 Pan Ti Duw? (T) (23060931) 9.00 I dot (88928634) 10.00 Father Ted (T) (T) (54804022) 10.35 Edende (M) (T) (67526225) (5469422) 10.35 Priends (1) (1) (67526225) 11.05 King of the Hill (1) (94464567) 11.35 Whose Line is it Anyway? (1) (69319886) 12.05am NME Premier Live Shows (57800707) 12.35 Bob and Margaret (1) (68226962) 1.05 Dispatches (T) (70802349)

CHANNEL 4 5.40am Pink Panther (7589732) 5.50 Animal Alphabet (7427916) 5.55 Sesame Street (4363428)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (74461) 9.00 Schools: History in Action (6059119) 9.20 Geographical Eye Over Britain 1 (6062683) 9.40 The English Programme (7868770) 10.00 Middle English (6830751) 10.20 Fourways Farm (4367683) 10.30 Scientific Eye (3790896) 10.50 What the Papers Said (2202119) 11.00 The Number Crew (9254848)

11.10 Channel Hopping Aut Deutsch (1026022) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (6374) 12.00pm Sesame Street (29022) 12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (54206)

1.00 Pet Rescue (f) (T) (84848) 1.30 The Ocean World of John Stone (r) (T) (53577) 2.00 Earthscapes (35752848)

2.05 Powder River (1953) Western about a gold prospector who becomes a town marshal to avenge his mining partner's murder. Stars Cameron Mitchell. Directed by Louis King (T) (1408683)

3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (157) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (664) 4.30 Countdown (1) (1290916) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (4301374)

5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (428) 6.00 Dishes Dating show with a culmary theme (T) (111)

6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (393) 7.00 Channel 4 News (1) (452461) 7.55 Music of the Millennium (T) (383041)

8.00 Nortand Nannies Cameras follow the nannies as they endure an arduous traming weekend in the Welsh mountains (3/6) (1) (8138)



Billy Butlin was renowned as a straightforward family man (8.30pm)

8.30 Billy Buttin The darker side of the holiday-camp king Billy Buttin, who was in the public eye for almost half a century (r)

9.30 Dispatches Report on the health dangers of excessive salt intake (T) (67770) 10.00 Rising Damp (r) (T) (454577) 10.35 Whose Line is it Anyway? (1) (280003)

11.05 Ally McBeal (r) (T) (865954) 12.00am 4 Later (9283558) 12.05 NME Premier Live Shows (5488436)

12.35 Oz (8425368) 1 An Vide (3002184) 2.15 Late Toon (7938455)

2.25 Hound Dog Man (1959) A youngster heads off on a hunting trip with an older triend, hoping he will share a few of lile's secrets with him. Musical drama, starring Fabian and Stuart Whitman. Directed by

Don Siegel (9658875)

3.55 Merdi Gras (1958) A military school cadet wins a raffe and gets to date a film star as his prize. Musical cornedy, starring Pat Boone. Directed by Edmund Goulding (852349)

CHANNELS 6.00am 5 News and Sport Headline round-up (7479225)

7.00 WideWorld Part five, The controversia Hall Genome Project (f) (T) (9574428) 7 20 Milkshakel (6655931)

7.35 Wirnzia's House (r); 5 News Update

8.00 Havakazoo (r) (1638732)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r); 5 News Update (1637003) 9.00 Animal House (r) (T) (1651683)

9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6097577) 10.20 Sunset Beach Maria hires a private eye 11.10 Leeza (2575751)

12.00pm 5 News at Noon (1) (1648119) 12.30 Family Affairs Dave gives Chris a massive cheque (r) (T); 5 News Update (9414848)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Jessica admits she's been raped (1) (9573799) 1.30 The Roseanne Show Jay Leno and Traci Lords guest 5 News Update

2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (6834119) 2.30 Good Afternoon An hour of enlaritainment, featuring Liverpool Murns, Cryptogram and Selling the Family Silver; 5 News Update (4026683)

3.30 Tokyo Cowboy (1995) Premiere. A distillusioned burger chef guits his job in Tokyo and emigrates to the widerness of Canada to follow his dream of becoming a cowboy. Culture-clash comedy, with Hiromoto ita. Directed by Kathy Gameau;

5 News Update (9100374) 5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (1): 5

News Update (6659003) 6.00 100 Per Cent (5795428) 6.30 Family Affairs (T) (5779480)

7.00 5 News; Weather (T) (6838935) 7.30 Wild Flight (1); 5 (5775664)

8.00 The Pepsi Chart (6847683)

8.30 CHEICE Family Confidential Recort on how getting-together of a couple brought up as stepbrother and stepsister affected those close to them, especially when they ennounced their wedding plans (3/6); 5 News Update (6826190)

9.00 Seeds of Deception (TVM 1993) Two women desperate for children manage to conceive through a sperm donor programme, but it soon transpires that the unorthodox methods used by the doctor involved aren't all they seem. Fact-based drama, starring Melissa Gilbert, Shanna Reed and Torn Verica. Directed by Arlene Sanford (T); 5 News -

10.50 Hotline (r) (2663515)

11.25 The Jack Docherty Show (8440684) 12.05am Live and Dangerous (50510962) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (3421900)

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#### For burther listings see Saturday's Vision SKY ONE

SKY ONE

7.00am Cours Duchale (32403): 7.30 The Smysons (1916) 8,00 The Simpsons (7525): 8.30 Hollywood Squares (74536): 9.00 Selly Jessy Rephasel (34683): 10.00 the Oprah Wintery Show (40428): 71.00 Gailly): (20564): 72.00pm: Jesny Jones (9333): 10.00 Med About You (24680): 7.30 Jeopardy (19157): 2.00 Selly Jessy Raphael (9206): 3.00 Jerny Jones (47521): 4.00 Gally): (23886): 5.00 Married — With Children (9321): 6.00 Married — With Children (9325): 6.30 Dressin Faram (7513): 7.00 The Sempsons (1480): 7.30 13739 9,00 Amongs Curriss Luminos (13739) 9,00 Amongs Verniss Version 17 (6936) 9,00 Francis (12770) 9,30 ER (8079) 10,39 Veronica's Crosel (55461) 11,00 Precimiter (24518) 11,30 Star Insk Deep Space Aire (53318) 12,30em Highlander (74542) 1,30 Lung Play (5484600) SKY BOX OFFICE

SKY'S DAY OF THOSE

To view any lain is signicine 1990 800886

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 25)

sackie Cham's First Strike (1990)

SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 65)

The Borrowsers (1997)

The Wings of the Dove (1997)

The Devil's Advocatin (1997)

SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 56)

Fathers' Day (1997)

ELL MERON 1997

FILMFOUR 8.00pm The Englishman Who Went Up a HR, Bar Carne Down a Mourhain (1995) (7570113) 8.00 Four Weddings and a Funeral (1994) 0325854 10.00 Strens (1994) (7071190) 11.35 Strens Moon (1992) (9371639.) 1.50am The Last Emperor (1987) (16163542) 8.00 Close

SKY PREMIER GORAN Deddy Long Legs (1955) 6158543; 8.10 A Change of Heart. (1907) (16012423) 10:00 Pete's Dragon (1907) (16012423) 10:00 Pete's Dragon (1907) (16012423) 10:00 Pete's Dragon (1907) (16012423) 10:00 (1907) 115 Perintes Fazeles: Drago (1907) (1907) 10:00 Peter Dragon (1907) (1908) 10:00 Peter Dragon (1907)

SKY MOVIEMAX

SKY MCVIEMAX
5.35sm \* McLaod\*s - Daughters\* (1996)
5.3514190] 7.15 Son of Godzilla (1967)
11.000915) 5.00 The \*Kd (1967)-(5002)
11.00 Enorm (1996) (2010) 1.00pm A
Message from Holly (1992) (2009) 3.00
The Kd (1997) (7428) 5.00 Emma
11995) 5.1845) 7.00 A Message from
Holly (1992) (24935) 8.30 El Neus Week in
Fishes (1003) 9.00 Murder at 1900 (1997)
169835) 11.00 Logaria War. Bound By
Honor (1998) (20041) 12.40eto The
Kalling Grounds (1997) (159146) 2.15
Laus of Gravity (1992) (1697504) 3.55
Born Bed (1987) (3882.5)
SKY CINEMA

4,00pm Seed: Charity (1889) (8550732): 5.00 Africa Screems (1949) (7338345): 8.00 Breakinst (1979) (7838395) (1.0.0). The Heans of the Roise (1986) (74131022): 12.10em Cruising (1880) (1167405) (1.5589): 3.45 Tight Spot (1985) (25302455) TNT

9.00pm An American In Parts (1951) (3635)190) 11,75 Butterfield Elgis (1960) (14214426) 1.15an One is a Lonely Number (1972) (50069233) 3.00 An American in Parts (1951) (36732332) 8.00 Ciose SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1
7.00am Live European PGA Golf: Heineken
Classic 10.00 Sponish Footbiel 12.00pa
Aerobics Oz Styls 12.30 Lake European
PGA Golf Heineken Cesises 2.30 Ringode
Boding 4.30 Survival of the Fittest 5.00
Outdoor Curset 6.00 Sports Centre 6.30
Footbal League Renew 7.00 Futbol
Murrial 7.30 Live European PGA Golf.
Heineken Classic 10.00 Sports Centre
10.15 You're On Styl Sports 10.45 Trans
worts Sport 11.45 Sports Centre 12.00am
vou're On Styl Sports 10.05 Footbal
League Reniem 1.00 Futbol Murdial 1.30
Fishing Tight Lines 2.30 Trans World Sport
2.30 Sports Centre 3.45 Cbse
SKY SPORTS 2
7.00am Aerobics Oz Style 7.30 Sports

7,00am Aerobics Oz Siyle 7.38 Sports

Buzz (8489) 8.00 Shoets from the Peat Centra 7.45 Racing News 8.15 (1995) (39541312) 10.10 Absolute Power (1997) (72087752) 12.15am Copyrest (1998) (328875) 2.00 To Love, Hondur and Deceive (1996) (186789) 3.55 The Great White Hype (1996) (89331349) World Pool League 5.00 Inside the PGA Tour SKY MOVIEMAX White Pool League 5:00 Inside the PGA.
Tour 5:30 Football League Review 6:00 What A Weekerd 6:30 Inside the PGA Tour 7:00 Live Snooker Welsh Open 10:00 US.
Golf. Phoenix. Open 12:08am Outdoor Ouest 1:08: The Rugby Cub 2:08 fee Hockey 4:30 Furbol Mundel 5:00 Spoils Centre 5:16 Live International Crokel SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm World Pool League 1.00 Fish TV 1.30 Didde Davies' Sporting Hisroes 2.30 Foolbet The Ententishers 3.00 Sporish Footbet 5.00 Underlander Sports 5.30 The Rugby Club 6.30 Fishing Tight Lines 7.30 Like for Hockey 10.00 Bobby Charlson's Footbet Strapbook. EUROSPORT 7.30atr Bobsleigh 2.00 Seithon 2.00.
Tennis 12.20pm Live Figure Skaling 4.00
Olympic Gerres 4.30 Tennis 5.30 Live
Figure Sasting 10.00 Tennis 11.00 Car On
Ios. 11.30. Snowboarding 12.00am
Snowboarding

UK GOLD 7.00am Crossroeds 7.30 Neighbours 7.55 EastEnders 8.30 The Bill 9.30 The House of Elog 10.39 Recode 11.00 Dalas 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm EastEnders 1.00 Jules Boyo 2.00 Dalas 2.55 The Bill 3.55 EastEnders 4.30 Rhods 5.00 Al Creatures June Boyo 2,00 Page 2,55 THE DR. 3,55 EastEnders 4,30 Photo 5,00 Al Credutes Great and Small B.00 Dynasty 7,00 2,00nH 4 Chicken 7,40 E Ahrt Hell Hot, Nurn 8,20 Yes, Mirester 9,00 Fawly Towars 10,20 Nanhor 11,28 The Bill 12,25me Backup 1,20 FELM: Devils of Darkmess (1965) GRANADA PLUS

GRANADA PLUS

6.0em Within These Wate 7.00 Cn the
Buses 7.20 Doctor in the House 8.00
Beadle's About 8.59 Up the Garden Path
9.00 Classic Connetion' Street 9.30
Emmerdale Farm 10.00 thit/pomething
11.00 Haviesi Five-O 12.00pm Classic Counstion Street 12.30 Emmerdale Farm
1.00 Nearest and Dearest 1.30 Apony 2.00
thin/pomething 3.00 The Love Bost 4.00
The Saint 8.00 Hassel Fare-O 6.00.
Emmerdale Farm 5.30 Classic Coronation
Street 7.00 Mession Impressible 8.00 The
Love Bost 9.00 Classic Coronation Street



9.30 The Comedians 10.00 Jokers Wild 10.30 Hogan's Heroes 11.00 Granada men CARLTON SELECT 5,00pm Whet's Cooking? 5.90 Gndlock 6.00 London Bridge 6.30 Home to Roost 7.00 Boon 8.00 Animal SOS 8.30 Goodnight Sweetfiest 8.00 St Blewhere 10.00 The Other Side of Paradise 11.00 HB

DISNEY CHANNEL OISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Beta: 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Garnyl Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 6.35 Garnyl Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Auddin 7.35 101 Delmatiens 8.00 Good Troop 8.25 Classic Toons 8.45 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 9.05 The Adventures of Spot 9.05 Animal Shell 9.15 Poilest Dragons 9.30 Bear 9.55 The Toothbrush Farmly 10.00 Bea 5.55 The Toothbrush Farmly 10.00 Bea 5.00 112.05 Animal Shell 9.10 He 11.00 Sesams Smoot 12.05 Peand J Otler 11.00 Sesams Smoot 12.05 Animal Shell 12.15 Poiles Dragons 12.30 Bear 12.55 The Toothbrush Farmly 1.00 Bre 5tee 1.15 Tole TV 1.30 The Big Garage 1.45 PB and J

Otter 2.00 Ounck Pack 2.30 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 3.00 The Life. Mermaid 3.30 Ari Amack 4.00 101 Dehmatiens 4.30 Hercules: The TV Show 5.00 Recess 5.15 Papper Ann 5.30 Smart Guy 8.00 Teen Angel 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Honey I Shouth the Kids: The TV show7.50 Classic Tooms 8.00 FR.M: Under Wraps (1987) 8.30 Horne Improvement 10.06 Diviosaurs 10.30 The Worlder Years 11.00 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman

FOX KIDS NETWORK 8.00am Power Rangars 7.00 Mortel Kombar 7.25 Oggy and the Codeoaches 7.25 Oggy and Mex 8.25 Spidsman 9.00 X-Men 9.25 Fantastic Four 9.30 The Incedible Hult 10.15 Casper 10.30 Oggy and the Codeoaches 11.00 The Motas and the Monster 11.05 Eel/Stategenza 11.30 Life with Louis 11.55 Home to Pert 12.05 Spec Sam and Mex 12.30 Dorkey Kong 1.00 Mongit The New Advenure of Jungle Book 1.25 Aca Versias 1.50 Spidemen 2.15 X-Men 2.40 Fertastic Pour 3.35 The Incredible Hult 3.30 Roy and Lisa's Big Ride 3.35 Monal Knimbar 4.00 Sorderman 4.25 Moyagir The Kormaz 4,00 Sperman 4,22 Mowgir Tre-New Adventures of Jungle Book 4,50 Horns-to: Rent 5,00 Goosebumps 5,25 Eene Indians: The Other Dimension 5,50 Coppy 5,65 Donkey Kong County 6,25 Şam and Mex 6,50 EeklStravegenzo NICKELODEON

Modern Muppel Babies 6.30 Rocko's Modern Lile 7.00 CatDog 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 The Wild Thomberry, 8.30 Arthur 9.00 Châden's 68C 10.00 Witner's House 10.30 Baber 11.00 The Magic School Bus 11.30 PB Bear/Budge the Little Helcopter/Amera Antics/Family Ness 12.00pm Rugrats 12.30 Blad's Clues 1.00 Bananas in Pyjamas 1.30 Little Bear Stones 2.00 Clangers/Kog Roko/Wombles/Bod 2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 3.30 Pool Londstocking A00 Hey Amold! 3.30 Popt Longstocking 4.00 Hey Amold 4.30 Rugrats 5.00 Sister Sister 5.30 Kenan and Kel 8.00 Sabrina the Teenage Witch 6.30 Driven Crazy 7.00 Close TROUBLE

7.30am Cty Guys 8.00 Saved by The Bell
7.30am Cty Guys 8.00 Saved by The Bell
The New Class 8.30 Hang Time 9.00
Tempost 10.00 Holycels 10.30 Echo
Polin 11.00 Sweet Valley High 11.30
Californe Diesims 12.00pm The Fresh
Prince of Bel-Air 12.30 in the House 1.00
Tempost 2.00 Holycels 2.30 Echo Point
3.00 Ready Cr Not 3.30 Cty Guys 4.00 The
Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 4.30 in the House
5.00 Sauced by the Bell, The New Class 5.30
Sweet Valley High 8.00 Hang Time 6.30
Sugar's Real Life Stones 6.45 Bangs 7.00
ILSA High 7.30 Ready Or Not
REPAND BRAVO

SARVO Cope The A-Team 9.00 LAPD 9.20 Cope 10.00 Extreme Championship Wissling 10.30 Eroke Series 11.00 FILM: The Puntisher (1990) 1.00am Sex Bytes 1.30 Scary So 2.00 Extreme Championship Winesling 2.50 Cops 3.00 FILM: COD (1981) 5.00 LAPD 5.30 Bushido 6.00 Class PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Clueless 7.30 Grace Under Fre 8.00 Rossenne 8.30 News Rosin 9.00 Cybal 9.30 Vic Resves Big Night Cut 19.00 Fragier 19.30 Cheers 11.00 Schieried 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show 12.00em Late Night with Dewid Letterman 1.00 Taxi 1.30 The Crite 2.00 Or Katz 2.30 Soap 3.00 Wings 3.30 Nighteend 4.00 Close

SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY

Twight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Stones 2.30 Mystenes, Magic and Miracles 3.00 Buck Rogers 4.00 The Incardible Hulk 5.00 Sighangs 8.00 Time Tray 7.00 Cusertum Leop 8.00 Mercy Pornt 9.00 Bebyton 5 10.00 FILM: Spaceballs (1987) 11.55 Sch Focus 12.00am New Alfred Hitchook, 12.30 The Ray Bradbury Treatine 1.00 FILM: Nouse IV (1990) 2.55 Sch Focus 3.00 The Twilight Zone 3.30 Dark Shedows HOME & LEISURE

8.00am Today's Gournet 6.30 Grahem Kerr 7.00 Crahmas 7.30 The Painted House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 9.00 Smpty Painting 9.30 The Great Garden Game 10.00 Bloom 10.30 Cooksbout with Greg and Mex 11.00 Two's Country, Get Stock in 11.30 Pask Hurt Fishing Adventures 12.00pm Our House Down Linder 12.30 Doing if Up 1.00 Our House you have 1.30 Homeiro 2.00 New Yankey Workstop 2.30 Home Agan 3.00 The Old House 7.30 Rev. Hurt DISCOVERY

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm Horso Tales 12.30 Going Wild 1.00 Nature Walch with Julian Petuler 1.30 Australia Wild 2.00 Wildlife ER 2.30 HumaryNature 3.30 Harry's Practice 4.00 HumanNature 3.30 Harry's Practice 4.00 Lack Herma's Ahmerl Adventures 4.30 Anneal Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 5.30 Australia Wild 6.00 The New Adventures of Black Bearry 6.30 Lesse 7.00 Rediscovery of the World: South Ahmer 8.00 Ammet Doctor 8.30 Profiles of Nature 9.30 Emergency Vots 10.00 Deadly Australiens 10.30 The Big Ammal Show 11.00 Wild Rescues 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00mm Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Big Guy 7.30 Beli 8.00 Abican Phynos 9.00 Extreme Earth 10.00 On the Edge 12.00em loebound

HISTORY 4.00pm The World at War 5.00 Four Years of Thunder 6.00 Secrets of the Romanova 7.00 The Big House

CARLTON FOOD 9.00em Food Network Dely 9.38 Food for Thought 10.00 Who's Cooking Darker? 10.30 Worsal Thompson Cooks 11.00 What's Cooking? 11.30 Coxxon's Kitchen College 12.00gm Food Network Dely 12.30 For Better, For Worse 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 The Green Gourmet 2.00 Tessa Bramley's Country Nichen 2.30 Food Network Dely 3.00 Reprospectives 3.30 Coxxon's Kitchen College 4.00 From the Ground Up 4.30 Certibbeen Light LAVING

LIVING LIVING
6.00am Iny and Crew 6.20 Phibert 6.20 Johnson and Friends 6.45 Tiny Tales 6.50 Polka Dol Shorts 7.00 Practical Parensing 7.05 Professor Bubble 7.36 Casicu 7.35 Bug Aleri 7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Bermy 8.30 Tiny Tales 8.35 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Des Show 9.30 The Roseanne Show 10.00 Jerry Springer 10.50 Meury Ponch 11.40 Procisate 12.10pm Animal Rescue 12.40.7 Rescue 911 1.10 Spocial Bables 1.40 Parenting 9.00 Des Show 9.00 Meury Ponch 11.40 Procisate 12.10pm Animal Rescue 12.40.7 Rescue 911 1.10 Spocial Bables 1.40.7 Rescue 911 7.55 Animal Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Rolands 5.40 Rescue 8.00 Murder Cal 9.00 Filliam Femily Rescue (TVM 1995) 11.00 Sex Lie Doun Under ZEE TY

5.00em Cher Rassia 5.30 Music Time 6.00

5.00em Cher Rassia 5.30 Music Time 6.00

Fatin 7.30 News 8.00 Karcton Dunya 8.30

Salaab 9.00 Zeneesen 9.30 Heath Show 10.00 Hawaan 11.00 Pot Luck 11.30

Parampara 12.00pm Film: Goral Garassini 3.00 Zee Bangla 3.30 Public Demand 4.00 Campus 4.30 Paradishan 5.30 Deman 8.00 Top of the Pops 8.30 Hb Hp Hurray 7.00 Gudguides 7.30 Cinemage 8.00 News 8.30 Chetat Aur Neinst 9.00 Hursleys's Hasralein 12.00em News 12.30 Public Pathur 7.00 Cher 12.00em News 12.30 Public Pathur Kir Instat 4.30 An Hour With



**CYCLING 45** 

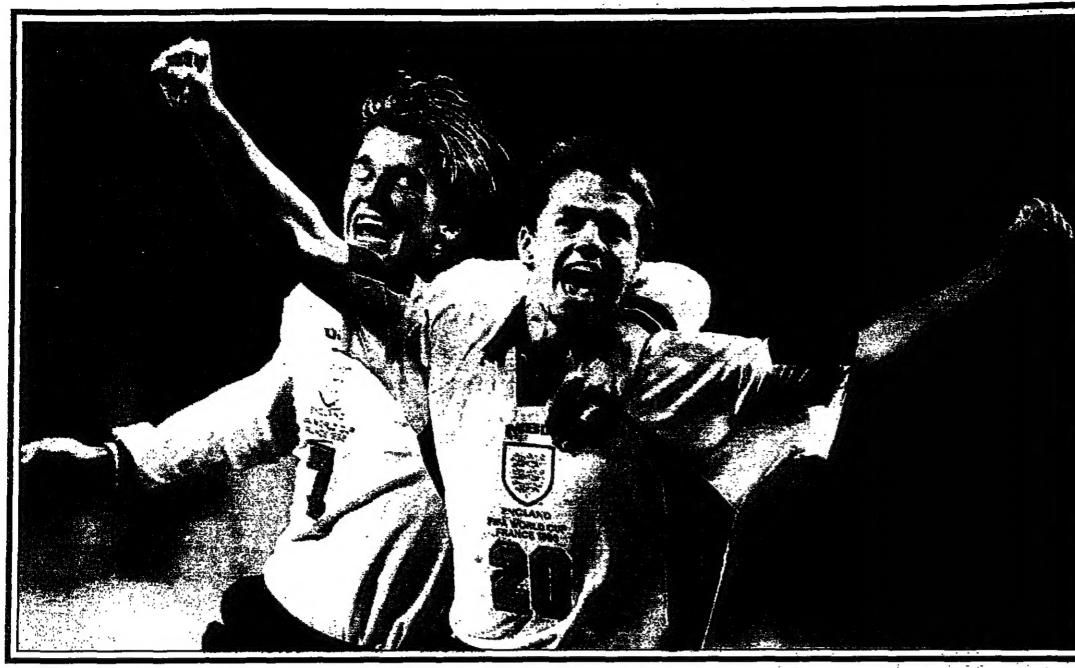
Hopes ride high for team that is Linda McCartney's legacy

CRICKET 49

India and Pakistan remain guardedly optimistic for tour



THURSDAY JANUARY 28 1999



Owen goal, winning shot



Michael Owen celebrating scoring a goal for the England

aided

Aspland's photograph catches the delight of Owen and David Beckham as they celebrate the 83rd-minute goal that briefly levelled the scores

cremony at the Guildhall, London, is the second he 34, from Harpenden, **Icrifordshire** Aspla so became the Kodak Royal

Redknapp pays £1.5m for temperamental Italian forward who pushed referee

# West Ham gamble on Di Canio

pains to point out yesterday forward. The miracle was that he found one with a nice word to say about him.

Had he turned to Ron Atkinson, for example, Redknapp, the West Ham United manager, would have been told that

TIIMES

on a player known as "The Volcano". "I have worked with some nutters in my time." Atkinson said, "but Di Canio

Atkinson has not been alone in condemning a player who has now moved nine times in his career, rarely without rancour. Nevertheless, his chequered past was not enough to deter West Ham from taking

shire club paid Celtic for his

Wednesday's only demand was that Di Canio should drop his appeal to the FA Premier League against the fines levied against him since his II-match ban for pushing Paul Alcock, the referee, to the ground. The player, who had been suspended without pay for refusing to return from Italy since Novem-TWO ber, agreed, presumably realising that he had no alternative. CROSSWORD "It has not been a case of clubs beating a path to our door to

sign him." Graham Mackrell, the Wednesday secretary. While Wednesday insisted yesterday that they were supportive of Di Canio after his ban for pushing Alcock, the Italian believes that he was isolated and said that his resultant depression was behind his refusal to return to

England until yesterday.

"He was upset because he felt no one at Sheffield contacted him," Redknapp said. "He didn't feel any support. He felt he needed friendship after making a mistake, but he didn't get it." So Redknapp has thrown a protective arm around Di Canio. 30, and will become the latest manager to try to calm a player whose tal-

ents have previously persuaded Lazio, Juventus and AC don't have the slightest doubt Milan to buy him — not a bad that Paolo's troubles are CV and proof of his wonderful behind him. Tommy Burns attacking skills. However, even Redknapp admitted that

it was a mighty gamble.
"Everyone will have their opinion, but mine is the only one that counts," he said. "I have never in my life been afraid to take a chance and told me that at Celtic he was the best professional he had

worked with. "I love flair players like Ginola, McManaman, people who turn a game with a moment of genius. He can do



Di Canio, left, and Foe strike up an immediate friendship after signing for West Ham yesterday

against us for Wednesday on the opening day of the season. He was pure class and I said then that I would love him in

my team.
That tells you he was my first choice and our players are delighted. You should have seen people like Wrighty and Rio Ferdinand when I told them. OK, he pushed a referee, but he is not the first to do that I can name two other Premiership players guilty of the same thing, but in those cases the referee did not fall over, and that is what caused

all the fuss." It was not the first time, nor is it likely to be the last, that Di Canio is at odds with officialdom, but the player insisted that he would have no problem were he to meet Alcock again. "I made a mistake and I paid a big price." he said. "I am sorry and I just want to play football now. After four months, I have missed playing. I have been watching matches on TV, but it is terrible for your mind when you

cannot go out and play.
"I could have moved to other clubs in Europe, but I wanted to come back to England and I believe West Ham are a better team than Wednesday. I have no problems here,

I certainly hope I will not be a

Amid the fuss over Di

Canio, it was almost over-looked that West Ham had also paid Lens £3.5 million for Mare-Vivien Foe, the Cameroon international midfield player, whose huge presence even persuade Di Canio to keep his temper. "He's a monster," Redknapp said. "I don't think the physical side of the English game will be a problem, do you?

A player coveted by Man-chester United until he broke his leg last season. Foe, who has signed a SM-year contract.

Saturday, when he will be an midfield. Di Canio, who is still have to wait a little longer. Hugo Porfirio, the former West Ham forward, is expected to complete a move from Benfica to Nottingham Forest today, in time to make his debut against Everton at Goodison Park on Saturday. Initially on loan, Porfirio could complete a permanent move if he impresses in Forest's fight against relegation.

McAicer on move, page 48

diff

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DOWN

2 Cupidity (7)

ness (5.7)

13 Huge success (7)

17 Torturing pain (5)

15 Come apart (7)

parlour (5)

3 Bell-shaped spring flower (5)

5 Expressing deep emotion (7)

7 With expressed unwilling-

19 Literary gathering: beauty

4 One selling meals (12)

Rum-off channel (5)

No 1626

ACROSS 1 Swivelling wheel (6) 5 Team; swagger (slang) (4) 8 Not make it (4) 9 Strange, snug lair (anag.) (8) 10 Temporarily lose (8) 11 Cowardly terror (4)

12 Wise guide (6) 14 Twin of 1 (6) 16 Metered form of transport (4) 18 Leg-covering garment (S) (Alice) (8)

20 Smallest tea-party member 21 Adore (4) 22 Fabulous story: false idea (4) 23 Complicated mess (6)

**SOLUTION TO NO 1625** ACROSS: 4 Enter 7 Trade-off 8 Time 9 Autumnal 10 Vernal 13 Winter 14 Dim sum 15 Mersey 18 Modulate 19 View 20 Negligee 21 Delve DOWN: 1 Strife 2 Careen 3 Recall 4 Effusive 5 Tinnitus 6 Roller 11 Remedial 12 Aquiline 14 Demand 15 Meekly 16 Ravage 17 Eleven

#### THE BOOKSHOP

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### Walker supplements income

hrough the letterbox they came, the daily newspapers with Dougie Walker's photograph prominent on many a back page. It being Wednes-day, Athletics Weekly joined the thud on to the doormat, slightly heavier than usual. Inside the magazine was a catalogue, a 96-page guide to power and performance supplements and associated items. Walker appeared on

Universe contest. If British athletics launching its new governing body on the day that Walker was revealed as the athlete who had returned positive A and B samples from a drug test was the first act of unfortunate timing, here was act two. "The brochure that has appeared this week is a hugely unfortu-nate coincidence," Nigel Walsh, the editor of the maga-

the front page, above two men

who would enhance a Mr

zine said. Walker has vigorously denied knowingly taking any banned performance-enhancing substance. In the meanDavid Powell on the unfortunate timing of a brochure containing

endorsements by drug-test athlete

financial interest in the brochure hope that he will help to sell some of the products. "If it was not so sad for Dougie, it would be comical." Tim Hutchings, consultant for Ree-bok, Walker's sponsor, said.

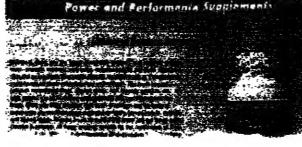
The catalogue includes some products accompanied by the warning: "Avoid this if you compete at IOC tested level." This message dues not apply to the two Walker endorses. While Walker waits to learn whether he has a case

to answer, there has been no suggestion that any of the products are connected with his A and B samples. That Britain's best-known

athletics magazine should be

used a vehicle for tempting athletes into taking substances on the edge of legality drew murmurings from within the sport yesterday.

A particular concern is that children form part of the readership. Walsh said that his magazine would be "review-



ing the policy on accepting advertising for supplements". How choice has grown. In 1972, when relatively little was known about performance supplements, word spread that Lasse Viren, a Finn, had won the Olympic 5,000 and 10,000 metres aided by pollen tablets. At colleges in Britain the rush began to find out where they could be bought. John Gladwin, the 1986

Commonwealth Games 1.500 metres runner-up, is now athletics manager for Nike. Mark Richardson, a Nike athlete and one of Britain's leading 400 metres runners, is among several athletes endorsing products in the brochure. "So long as these products are not on the banned list. I would not be alarmed they are taking them." Gladwin

"Some athletes I know are walking a tightrope. Much of it is fear for your diet not giving you enough. Has it moved on from when I was a top athlete? Supplements now are the norm whereas in the old days, it was just the elite athletes who took them."